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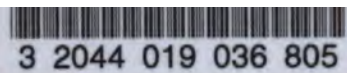
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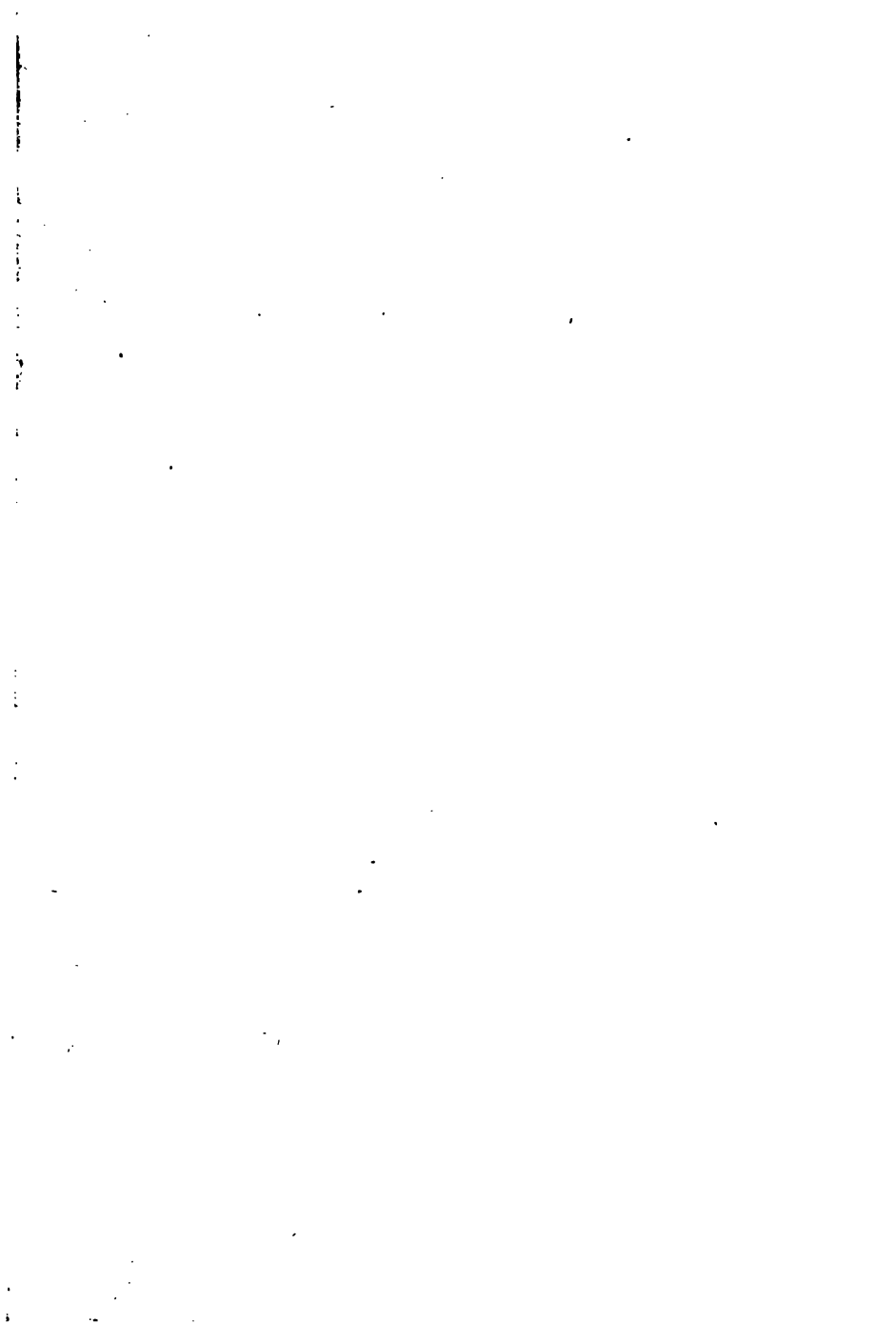
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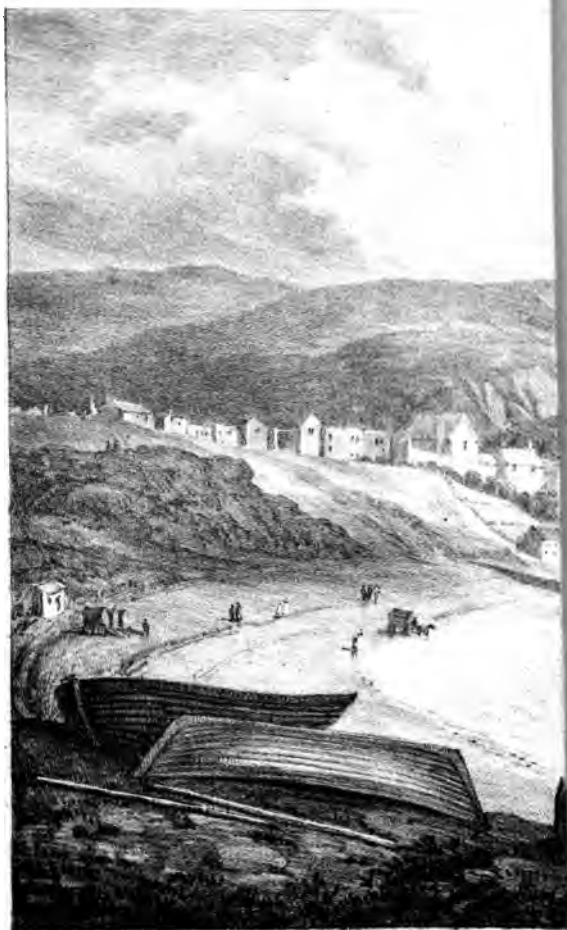


Fig. 1. Baynes del.

THE
HISTORY
OF
LYME - REGIS,
DORSET,
FROM
THE EARLIEST PERIODS TO THE PRESENT DAY.

BY
G. ROBERTS.

*Favente Neptuno vegetus, irato dilapsus
Per tot secula fui.*

SHERBORNE:
PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR, BY LANGDON AND HARKER,
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TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
EARL OF WESTMORLAND.

MY LORD,

It is with the sincerest sentiments of respect that I presume to offer to your Lordship's notice this first attempt towards a **HISTORY OF LYME**; and I trust that the difficulties incident to the first topographical enquiries will plead for any inaccuracies that may have found admission.

I have the honor to be

Your Lordship's

Most humble and obedient servant,

GEORGE ROBERTS.

P R E F A C E.

THE utility of local histories is generally allowed: they furnish authentic particulars for the county historian, and present to those who by birth or residence are connected with a town an interesting review of its annals.

Dr. Johnson says there is scarce a village in Italy without its historian. That watering-places in England should be provided either with Guides, or Histories, is not surprising, when we take into consideration the great influx of company, who, from their repeated visits, form a sensible attachment to particular places, and greatly support publications of the present character.

It is obvious that many such towns have risen into estimation within the last seventy years, whose annals previous to that time might be comprised in a page. Notwithstanding Lyme is rendered interesting by many historical occurrences that have taken place in it, no attempt has ever been made towards a history: no private collec-

tion exists to which any reference could be made,* so that the whole of the matter here brought together has been procured from various sources.† Many difficulties have from time to time presented themselves, which have been removed occasionally by successful research, but more frequently by the information and personal exertions of several gentlemen whose kindness in subjecting themselves to the trouble thus caused them the author will ever remember with sentiments of respect and gratitude.

A description of Lyme is doubly required, as the most respectable topographical works contain a very imperfect sketch of the leading features of its history; the necessary information can alone be obtained from a local publication.‡ Many particulars are here inserted which, if

* Mr. Walker had a diary containing many interesting particulars that had occurred within his remembrance, which was burnt with his house, and caused the old man nearly as much regret as the loss of other valuable property.

† Hutchins's Dorset has been of essential service. Lyme is only mentioned in history from its connection with the civil wars and Monmouth's expedition.

‡ It would occupy too much space to give several very ludicrous extracts of what are termed descriptions of Lyme, from compilations of the last seventy years. One account contains a censure on the inhabitants for their neglect of the salt manufacture, in a situation where it might be so easily conducted, "Lyme being in every direction surrounded by swamps and low grounds!!"

not recorded, would in a few years be lost.* More than once has the author failed in procuring information from persons who assured him that natives of Lyme, who have not been long dead, could have given the most minute account. Many deeds have been lost from the parish chest, by an aged clerk, within the last twelve years.

The subject here selected requires no apology, as it has been repeatedly called for: let the difficulties attending the first essay be a sufficient excuse for trifling defects in the execution.

The increasing interest the publication has excited among such a distinguished class of persons, who have kindly condescended to allow their names to stand on the list of subscribers, is, the author must own, very encouraging; yet he cannot divest himself of diffidence, lest their expectations should be disappointed.

* The old people residing in Lyme about 1760 were acquainted with particulars that are now entirely lost. Mrs. Pyne, a very old lady, used to entertain her friends with the most interesting and minute details of every expedition in which her ancestors, the brave Captains Thomas and Hercules Pyne, were engaged during the civil wars.

One of the ornamental favours worn by Monmouth's friends has been given as a plaything to a child within the last forty-five years.

Being got up on good paper, and with a clear new type, it is trusted the public will not consider their encouragement has been taxed. The price will enable many to become purchasers who could not have done so had the work appeared in the expensive form which too frequently accompanies the publication of local histories. The author is more anxious that his book may be weighed in the scale of *interest* than in that of *expence*; he feels confident it will not be less favorably received as coming from a *young* man who is a *native* of Lyme.

LYME, October 27th, 1823.

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HISTORY
OF THE
TOWN AND BOROUGH OF LYME-REGIS.

IN the western part of Dorsetshire, on the very confines of Devon, between and on the ascent of two romantic hills, at the deepest part of the West Bay, in longitude $3^{\circ} 43'$ west, latitude $50^{\circ} 48'$ north, is agreeably situated the ancient town of Lyme, which enjoys a climate eminently mild and salubrious, distant from London one hundred and forty-three miles, twenty-four from Dorchester, and twenty-eight from Exeter. The lower part of the town is washed by the sea, from the violence of which it is protected by walls and jetties, while the environs are extremely rural and picturesque, abounding in romantic scenery, and views of that justly admired range of hills extending eastward so far as Portland, whose abrupt precipices terminate the prospect in that direction. That part of the parish without the precincts of the borough is in the hundred of Whitchurch Canonorum, and though a peculiar of Salisbury is in the diocese of Bristol,

The existence of Lyme in the early ages rests on the authority of the celebrated Mr. Llyyd, who says that it was called by the Britons *Lornboth*, a city of ships. Baxter conjectures it to be the Roman station mentioned

in the Chorography of Britain by the anonymous *Ravenas*—and probably with accuracy, since the stations in this part of the country are detailed with an appearance of order. Dr. Gale, in his edition of this work, observes that the MS. of the King of France reads *Landinis* and *Londinis*, while *Lindinis* also occurs in the MS. of the Vatican Library. The difference is of trifling import, the word being, as Baxter observes, derived from the British, meaning “a naval harbour.” The nearest Roman camp, according to Hutchins, is Lambart’s Castle; and at *Musbury*, Polwhele says, there are the remains of an extensive work thrown up by that people a short time previously to their departure, in order to check the progress of the Saxons.

Baxter calls the river *Limia*, restoring it from *Ravenas*’ corrupted *Cimia*, and derives it from *Limi i ii*, which means a torrent of water. The Saxons, who rejected every British term but the names of rivers, called it from the little stream *Lim*,—occasionally, for distinction, *Estlim*. The Normans, who spelt in unison with their pronunciation, wrote *Lym*, and *Lime*.—The river takes its rise among the hills three miles north of the town. After receiving another brook, it falls into the sea at the Cobb-gate. Hollingshed notices that in its course, by the side of Sleech-wood, it sinks under ground, and rises again at some distance,—a circumstance particularly observable every summer.

Mention is first made of Lyme, by its Saxon appellation, about the time the West Saxons were converted to

Christianity. Their kings, in order to shew their piety and sense of religion, were induced to found and endow religious houses. A monastery was established at Sherborne, when a constant intercourse began to be maintained between the two places. The Abbey of Sherborne, from the earliest period of its establishment, appears to have been endowed with grants of land in Lyme, as was also the more distant and powerful Abbey of Glastonbury. It is worthy of remark, that men in that age of comparative ignorance or barbarism were acquainted with the unusual saltness of the sea-water at Lyme,—a peculiarity which, a writer observes, the present inhabitants fail of turning to their advantage. The Saxons boiled the water in pans, for the manufacture of which the men of Lyme were particularly famous. There was made all the salt, that indispensable article, for the Abbeys of Sherborne and Glastonbury.

A. D. 774, Cynewulf, King of the West Saxons, by charter, gave to the Church of Sherborne the land of one mansion on the west bank of the river commonly called the Lim, that salt might be there made to supply the necessities of the said Church.*

Coker having observed that this is the first mention any where made of Lyme, a pretty general supposition prevails that the town was first built on the western side of

* MS. in the Cotton Library, of Kings who were founders of the Church of Sherborne, copied by Dugdale and Hutchins.

the river, which will be probably in a measure removed when it is known that the church was always situated on the opposite side of the stream, and may with probability be supposed to have existed prior to the grant of the land to the Church of Sherborne.

The neighbouring coast was particularly subjected to the invasions of the Danes, who committed dreadful ravages in every direction. In 787 they landed at Portland, to observe the country, from three ships, which they did without interruption, as the Saxons had neglected their marine. A. D. 833, according to the Saxon Chronicle, though some of our historians place it 831 or 832, a dreadful battle was fought between Charmouth and Lyme. The Danes, having met with repulses in other parts of the kingdom, sailed to Charmouth, where, having landed, Speed says "they made cruel ravage and slaughter." Their fleet consisted of thirty-five ships, containing a powerful army: their whole force, Huntingdon remarks, must have amounted to 17,500 men; other writers have estimated their numbers at about 15,000. Egbert collected the whole force of the county, and marched to attack them, after they had continued their ravages, according to Matthew of Westminster, about a twelvemonth. The king had nearly succeeded in cutting them off as they were forming: he threw them into great confusion, but continual supplies of men from the ships turned the scale in their favour. The Saxons were routed: the night alone prevented their destruction by the infuriated invaders, by the favour of which, Speed says, the king hardly escaped. Among the number of the slain were two earls, his prin-

cial officers, Dudda and Osmond, Wigen, Bishop of Sherborne, and Hereferth, Bishop of Winton. The Danes, finding a settlement would be liable to the attacks of the brave Egbert, retired to their ships with precipitation, and set sail. They continued to hover about the coast. In 840 they effected a landing on the same spot, from the same number of ships. Ethelwulf's army, which he headed in person, advanced to encounter them: a bloody battle ensued, which, after a desperate struggle, terminated in the Danes remaining masters of the field, though they shortly after retired without any spoil. A successive series of invasions followed. Alfred, considered as the founder of the English navy, organised a marine on the coast of Dorset. His fleet of small ships was provided with warlike engines and expert seamen, who, commanded by their brave king, engaged with the Danes in innumerable sea-fights, and obliged them to desist from their piratical incursions on the coast. Tradition preserves an account of their attempts to make a harbour at Charmouth: that not succeeding, they secured their vessels at Lyme, which, in the opinion of many persons, sufficiently proves the first establishment of a harbour to have begun with that people. It would be improper to dwell here on a subject purely hypothetical, having treated of it in the sequel.

Nothing is recorded from this period till after the Norman conquest, when Domesday Book was compiled. A translation of the passages relating to Lyme will display by no means an uninteresting or imperfect view of the state of the town. In that celebrated record the different

parcels of land are classed under the names of the several possessors. After an enumeration of various possessions of the Bishop of Salisbury, to whom the Abbot of Sherborne was subject, it continues:—

“The same bishop holds Lym: it is arable land: one carucate; and has never paid the geld. Fishermen rent it and pay 15 shillings to the monks for the privilege of fishing. There are four acres of meadow. The bishop has one house, yielding 6 pence.

“*Land of Holy Mary of Glastonbury.*—This church held Lym in King Edward’s time: paying geld for three hides. It is arable land: four carucates. Ulviet rented it and still rents it of the abbot, having two carucates, 9 villains,* 6 bordars, and four acres of land there. The pasture is four furlongs in length and two in breadth; also ten acres of wood. There are 13 saltmen who pay 13 shillings. The whole is worth 40 shillings.

“*William Belet’s Possession (the Thane).*—The same William holds Lime. Alueue did in King Edward’s time, paying geld for one hide. It is arable land: one carucate. There is 1 villain, with half a carucate and 13 saltmen. The mills there pay 39 pence. There are 3 acres of meadow. The pasture is 3 furlongs in length and 1 furlong in breadth; and one furlong of wood in length and breadth. It is worth 60 shillings.”

The annals of Lyme are of a truly pleasing character

* Villains: the lowest order of servants. Bordars: persons of a less servile condition, who held a bord, or cottage, with land, on condition of serving the lord’s table with provisions.

from the time this survey was made. It attained by progressive steps that eminence which subsequent reigns witnessed. Pope Eugenius III., by a bull A. D. 1145, confirmed the previous grant of the Church and Fishery to the Abbey of Sherborne. Trade began to be carried on by the inhabitants, and Henry III., in the 55th year of his reign, granted them permission to hold a fair and market. This is the first positive indication of the increasing importance of the town. The merchants had already existed as a numerous and respectable body, when Edward I., who has been termed with justice the English Justinian, granted to the town the liberties of a haven and borough; before which time, Coker observes, it made no great figure, not being enfranchised.

The manor of the Abbot of Sherborne came to the Crown, but it is not ascertained whether by exchange or purchase. The same happened to the Abbot of Glastonbury's manor. Of William Belet's portion nothing whatever is recorded: Hutchins supposes that it was swallowed up in one of the other two, and that both united might have been granted either to the town or some particular persons.

In the 8th Edward I. the jury certified the Abbot of Sherborne's claim of assize of bread and beer at Lyme; Elias de Rabayne, supposed to be the abbot's steward, was summoned to answer by what authority he held a market in the town. At the higher part of Broad-street was a road leading to Sherborne; it was situated a little farther east than the present Sherborne-lane. On digging in some of the adjacent gardens traces of the road are visible.

Dugdale alludes to a manor of the Abbot of Glastonbury, containing about this time six hides. This has been considered to relate to Uplyme, although his was the largest of the three manors, and has been confounded with Colway. Gregory Charlemagne held a place [placea] in Lyme of the abbot by knight's service, and yearly rent of 4s. and suit of court at Uplyme: the town is distinguished as *Netherlym-supra mare*. The history of Lyme for many years is almost exclusively the history of the borough. After it became the demesne lands of the Crown, and then the king's borough, it received the additional name of Regis, which it has ever since retained.

King Edward I., in the twelfth year of his reign (1284), by a charter, dated at Aberconway, granted that the town of Lyme be a free borough, and the men to be free burgesses; that they might have a guild [gilda mercatoria] and other liberties, and free customs throughout England, which had been granted by his predecessors to the burgesses of Melcomb-Regis and the citizens of London, relating to mercantile affairs. The grant of these liberties conspired so eminently to the prosperity of the town that many merchants soon after came to settle in it; and a bridge was erected to facilitate the communication between the two sides of the river,—a spot selected for building as it enjoyed a contiguity to the key. The merchants who came to Lyme about this period were principally from the interior, as the numerous local names of early representatives sufficiently demonstrate.

The town's first flourishing period was approaching. No

citizen could be compelled without the mete, or bounds of the borough, for any thing except of tenures without them. A citizen was to be quit of all murders within the borough and soken of the port; no burgess was to fight within the lists at tournaments; to be quit of all tolls and customs in all ports except for every ship laden with wine; to be free of chieldwitche [all fines for bondage of men and women residing in the borough]. No merchant coming into the borough, by land or water, could buy or sell till they were admitted into the borough, nor till their goods were weighed by the king's balance, &c. The burgesses were granted all the void places in the town, and all custom held by the city of London.

The same year John Percevant and Robert Walkelyn, two burgesses, sent to the King's Court, in behalf of the commons of the town, to dispatch affairs for the townsmen, made an acknowledgment in Chancery for a debt of seven marks to the king's chancellor, to be paid to his use the Whitsuntide next following.

Four years afterwards the king issued a writ to John de Metingham, justice itinerant, wherein he willed him to appoint some discreet knight to hear and determine pleas of tenures and transgressions within the town, according to the charter he had granted to the burgesses, of his beloved consort Eleanor, of Lyme, that they should not be impealed out of the said town.

The king, in the 26th year of his reign, notifies to the bayliff and good men of Lyme the prolongation of a truce

In the following year he assigns the town *cum pertin.* value £35. 10s. among other things to Queen Margaret for her dower.—*Reymer.*

William Tuluse and Geoffrey le Ker, the first representatives in Parliament, were returned A.D. 1295. There were no returns during the last four years of Edward's reign, when the Parliament sat at Carlisle. About this time mention is first made of a religious house of Carmelite Friars, of which only the following particulars are now known:—It was found not to the king's prejudice if he granted licence to William Daie, or Dacre, to give a messuage and eight acres of land there to the Friars of the order of the blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel, to build, *de novo*, an oratory and house for their habitation for ever; which premises were held of the king *in capite*, as parcel of his farm of Lyme, by service of paying yearly to him for the said farm 15s. 10d. They were mendicants, had little or no endowment of lands, and were called White Friars, from the colour of their habit. This Priory was probably subject to some foreign abbey. It is said to have been situated near the present "Stile House."*

The reign of Edward I. must, by every casual observer, be considered as highly propitious to the interests of Lyme, which, from his accession, took the turn that might have been anticipated.

Nothing remarkable occurred during the reign of the unfortunate Edward II. The merchants, favoured in their

* See account of this order in Ency. Britan.

negotiations by the immunities granted by his predecessor, continued to flourish.

Edward III., in the fifth year of his reign, granted the burgesses the town in fee-farm, paying annually into the Exchequer 32 marks. Lyme had then attained the summit of its prosperity:—there were seventy-seven merchants, who had each a house, and were possessed of fifteen “large ships,” and forty boats, twenty of which were employed in the fishery; without making mention of the mariners and villains residing in the town.

In 1335 Lyme and other towns received orders to send the ships then appointed to Portsmouth, the king being about to sail for Gascony.

The merchants in this reign built the Cobb in the sea, for the security of their ships, soon after they rented the town of the king. We must suppose that a work previously existed, but inconsiderable in point of extent. Having in the following pages treated of this structure, it would be improper to dwell here on the supposed origin, name, &c. The form in the earliest plans is preferable to the present one; though it must be confessed that the present manner of constructing it is greatly superior. Had heavier materials been substituted in the first instance for that precarious coping which inclosed a loose interior by the support of oaken piles, on which it was originally constructed, the work, secured from the shocks of the sea by its apex pointed towards and breaking the south-west swell, would probably have remained in that

form to the present day. The prosperity, and, probably, the existence of the town, since the erection of the Cobb, have been intimately connected with its security, alternately rising and falling with that structure, as will be perceived in the sequel. The extent of the Cobb, the immense labour and industry that must have been used in order to erect it in a situation of such difficulty, will remain a memorable proof of the enterprising genius, perseverance, and abilities of those merchants.

There was a Hospital for Lepers in the town, dedicated to St. Mary and the Holy Spirit, by which it is evident the inhabitants had not been free from the afflicting disease of leprosy,—introduced, according to most authors, from Egypt, in the tenth and eleventh centuries. The infected persons were cast off from the society of mankind, and not permitted to ask alms, unless by a procurator appointed for that purpose. It must have been established at an early period: 10th Cal. Dec., 1336, indulgencies were granted by the Pope to collect alms towards repairing the fabric and its bell-tower. There is every reason to suppose that it subsisted solely by charitable donations. In the Chantry Roll it is valued at 38s. 11d. per annum.*

* The Popes frequently granted indulgences to these establishments in order to their support, which held good for a certain number of years, on the repetition of a specified number of Paternosters and Ave-marias. The usual tenor of these bulls was that a contribution secured the donor of pardon "for all synes forgotten and offences done against fader and moder, and of all swerynges negligently made," &c. Mr. Flight's house, in Broad street, is supposed to have been built on the site of the former hospital. In old deeds it is called the Tower-House.

What an assistance the king derived from this town may be learnt from the roll of King Edward III.'s fleet at the siege of Calais, 1347, in the Cotton Library, where it appears that Lyme furnished the expedition with four ships and sixty-two mariners. They were to be provided with every necessary for fifteen days after setting sail at the town's expence,—the rest of the time the king paid them.

The next year was marked by the occurrence of a serious calamity. Fabian, and the generality of our historians, say that the great plague which broke out at Cathay, in Asia, 1346, made its first appearance in England, on the sea-coast of Dorsetshire, from which its ravages were communicated through Devon and all parts of the kingdom. No pestilence had been so fatal since that in the time of Vortigern, mentioned by Bede. Few survived the seizure above two or three days; some died in a few hours. Knyghton observes things were sold almost for nothing:—A horse, worth 40s., was sold for 6s. 8d.; a good fat ox at 6s.; a cow at 1s.; a heifer or steer at 6d.; a mutton at 6d.; an ewe at 3d.; a lamb at 2d.; a hog at 5d.—The inhabitants of towns fled into the country. The great pestilence had swept away so many priests that a chaplain could hardly be got to serve a church under ten marks, or ten pounds per annum; whereas before they might have been had at two marks, with their diet; and men would hardly accept of a vicarage at twenty marks per annum. "The Sarum Registers," says Hutchins, "from August 8th, 1348, to Lady-day, 1349, contain the admission of seventy incumbents." The plague continued till

Michaelmas ; yet, as it began on this coast, probably its rage abated sooner than where the infection was received later. Walsingham, who, in common with old historians, draws a very lamentable picture of its ravages, says that scarce a tenth part of the people remained alive. In many towns all the inhabitants died ; the houses fell down, and were never rebuilt.

As a contrast to the melancholy statement here given, it is pleasing to observe, that the ravages of this dreadful disorder made no impression permanently injurious to the commerce of the town, which during the latter part of the auspicious reign of Edward continued to flourish. But, alas ! this flattering state of prosperity was doomed to be sadly reversed, and the town itself threatened with total annihilation. Although nearly four centuries and a half have elapsed, yet tradition retains a faint account of one of the most calamitous events recorded in the annals of Lyme. The town extended much farther towards the south than it does in the present day : it is supposed that the land declined in a shelving manner to the strand ; and as the lowest situations, and those nearest to the key, were then most sought after, it was probably thickly covered with houses. The Cobb was swept away in a dreadful storm ; and at the same time some of the sea-walls and many houses ; the whole of the shipping, boats and vessels, were wrecked and destroyed. The extreme distress caused by such an affliction can be better imagined than described. If we may credit the existing traditional account, which it is worthy of remark does not sensibly vary in this instance, and is certainly within the bounds of pro-

bability, the whole devastation was not immediate. On the fall of the tide, after the destruction of the Cobb and some of the sea-walls, those persons who inhabited houses near the sea removed all their property, the storm still continuing with unabated fury: the next tide swept away seventy houses, and the ground they stood on. The length of time which has elapsed, together with the very different disposition of the shore in the present day, are obstacles that preclude an idea of ascertaining the correct situation of the buildings.

The extent of this calamity, than which a greater cannot be well conceived, appears by a petition sent to Richard II., in the first year of his reign, which confirms the lamentable statement of the misfortunes we have just given. A writ of enquiry was immediately directed to Henry Percehay, John de Chediok, Walter de Clopton, Robert Beyminstre, &c., reciting, that whereas King Edward I., A. R. 5, granted the town of Lyme to the burgesses there, and their successors, in fee-farm, paying yearly thirty-two marks, that now the said burgesses set forth, "that at the time of the grant the town was well-built, and inhabited by many rich merchants, whereby they were enabled to support the payment of the said farm and other burdens; but now the greater part of it is wasted and carried away by the rage of the sea; and many of the merchants dead, and the rest except six or eight are departed from the town; and that the *Cobb*, or *Conners*, built by them and other men at their own great charge and expence, for the reception of two or three barges [bargea] laden with merchandize, was, on Saint

Martin's day last, by the sudden fury of the sea, totally destroyed, so that by the flux and reflux of the high sea the ships cannot come to the town, nor can the inhabitants pay the said farm, nor their tenths and fifteenths as they usually did. And likewise for other calamities happening to the said town, they desire that the king would take it into his hands, and discharge the burgesses of the said farm and arrears, and also of tenths and fifteenths."

It is observable that these few lines contain matter of a dubious signification. The "other men" alluded to appear to imply some assistance derived from merchants of the interior by way of contribution towards the erection of the Cobb. The death of the merchants is evidently spoken of in reference to the recent plague. But it is the following which presents incongruities that few can satisfactorily reconcile. After reciting "the great charge and expence"—attendants of great works—their mention of the Cobb certainly conveys an idea of its having been on a confined scale: they speak of barges to the exclusion of ships, though in the report greater stress is laid on the importance of that structure. However, this petition sanctions an opinion entertained, that there was some work at the Cobb-gate (by the key) for the conveniency of ships unloading there. To enter into speculative details would occupy too much of our time, and the reader would probably think himself ill requited for his trouble.

That the afflicted townsmen had not exaggerated the account of the late injuries they had received is clear from the report of the commissioners appointed to examine into

the truth of their statements. Their observations on the desolation furnish a truly lamentable picture of the distress that prevailed at the time they visited Lyme. They show, to use their own words, "that there were seventy-seven tenements belonging to wealthy merchants, who had fifteen large ships, and forty boats, whereof twenty were for fishing; that the burgesses had taken the town to farm of King Edward III., which was destroyed by the sea, and the merchants dead and removed, and the ships and boats destroyed; therefore they could not pay the farm; that the Cobb or Conner lately built by the burgesses was, on the feast of Saint Martin last, destroyed by a sudden tempest, and could not be repaired under £300; that there were only eight burgesses and twenty-one poor tenants inhabiting the town, and so incapable of paying the farm, or the subsidies of tenths and fifteenths, for that the Cobb and the greatest part of the town was vacated, deluged, or overflowed, so that no other profit could arise except the toll of the market and grist-mill and the perquisites of court, not exceeding 10s. beyond reprisals, and that the town could not be relieved except the Cobb or Conners be new built."

Little is known of the state of the town from this period till several years afterwards. Calamities of a very different nature constantly occurred, involving the ill-fated townsmen in fresh distresses, who as often by petition prayed a remission of their fee-farm rents. It cannot be ascertained whether the Cobb was re-erected shortly after its destruction by the storm. It is tolerably clear that at the

expiration of twenty years other merchants had settled in Lyme. When Henry III. ascended the throne the town promised to revive, and many houses were built. What the sea had spared the French devastated: they landed from their fleet, and laid waste the town with fire and sword. The merchants again retired with their wares, leaving those who remained in a state of extreme depression: they had no possibility of paying the farm, and set forth in their petition their being impoverished by *many* assaults of the enemy. The king generously commiserated their sufferings: he reduced them of all arrears, and reduced their fee-farm rent from £21. 6s. 8d. to £5.

After the destruction of the greater part of the town by the sea, particular attention appears to have been paid to the construction of sea-walls. Any stranger who came to reside and trade in Lyme, without being made a freeman of the borough, was obliged to pay 3s. 6d. per week to the Corporation, which sum was to be applied to the repairs of the Cobb and sea-walls. Indeed, no merchant who failed in obtaining the freedom could hope for success in commercial transactions: he could not purchase a cargo till every freeman had, by not acceding to the price during the three days (till the expiration of which no foreigner could bid), tacitly refused to avail themselves, from excessive price asked, &c., of the privilege of being first served.

During the latter part of the glorious reign of Henry V. the town may be presumed to have been gradually reco-

vering from its recent state of depression, The civil wars between the Houses of York and Lancaster, being principally carried on at a distance, little affected this part of the country.

In the reign of Henry VI., 1433, under the pretence of the country being overrun with robbers, four commissioners were empowered to summon and tender an oath to persons of quality to keep the peace, both themselves and their retainers. The real object in view was the detection of those who favoured the House of York. Hutchins observes, that scarce a tenth part of the gentry are mentioned in the roll. In Lyme the only persons who gave in their names were John Crogg and Thomas Tinham: they are placed on the list as considerable men, who were able to disperse £12 per annum.

In the 22d year of Edward IV., 1481, by a petition, it appears that the ravages of the sea had been renewed. The burgesses and inhabitants set forth, "that the town by the tides and overflowing of the sea was often wasted, and many inhabitants departed from it; and that the port was by tempests destroyed, to the damage of vessels and merchants, and more accidents like to happen for want of repairs." The king, on this report, granted the town and its liberties in fee-farm for sixty-five years, paying only five marks, *i. e.* £3. 6s. 8d. per annum.

Dean Chandler speaks of salt fish at Lyme, great quantities of which were used there. It is conjectured that

pilchards were at that time taken in the West Bay, though now they seldom advance so far east.

Nothing of particular consequence occurs till the reign of Henry VIII., who, A. R. 35, reciting the former grant, confirmed the same for fifty years after the end of the former term. The queen (C. Parr), on the same consideration, granted the mayor and burgesses to hold the same, from the end of the term of fifty years, granted by the king, for sixty years more, and all liberties, &c., they to repair the Cobb during that time at their own charge. Mayors were elected a long time prior to this reign, though the exact period is not now known.

Mary, in the first year of her reign, granted a market on Fridays, and fairs on February 13 and October 2, N.S. with a court of piepounder to the mayor and burgesses.

Leland visited the town, and in his peculiar style gives this description of it:—"From Axmouth to Lime, about four miles by meatly good ground, but no plenty of wood. Lime is a praty market town, set in the rootes of a high rokky hille down to the hard shore. This town hath good shippes and usith fishing and marchauntice. Marchaunts of Morleys in Britaine much haunt this town. There cummith a shalow broke from the hilles, about a three miles by north, and cummith fleting on great stone, through a stone bridge in the botom. The tounesmen commonly call this water the *Baddel*. One Borough, a marchaunt man in time of minde, buildid a fair house in Lime, having a goodly tower at the entery of it. [Hut-

obins says it stood in the Butter-Market, but is now rebuilt.] There is but one paroch church in Lime. There is no haven at Lime: but a quarter of a mile by W.S.W. from the town is a great and* in the sea for socour of shippes."

From this period many merchants came to reside, and an extensive trade was carried on with the merchants of Morlaix and the Norman islands. The fairs were attended by traders from a distance, who made large purchases, and met with a ready sale for their merchandize to the inhabitants and dealers from the interior. The settlers about this time were many of them of French extraction, as their names clearly discover. The town, though in a promising state of improvement, on an inspection of the register, &c. cannot be considered to have been very populous. The Cobb had been re-erected during one of the preceding reigns by the townsmen: it was built in the sea, without any outer pier, and again received damage from storms.

At the commencement of the following reign, when Camden visited it, the Cobb still continued out of repair, and the town in a state of decline: it was hardly reputed a sea-port town, or haven, and only frequented by fishermen. He says, "it has a pier below, well defended from the winds by rocks and tall trees."

In the course of a few years great changes took place:

* Defaced in Leland's MS.

an extensive trade was carried on, many good houses built, the Cobb was also repaired, and received the addition of an outer pier.

May 31, 1582, the tide ebbed and flowed three times in one hour.

When the kingdom was threatened by the invincible Spanish armada, as it was then termed, great attention was paid to this coast. It was determined that no immediate danger presented itself of troops landing at Lyme, though Charmouth, and other places in the West Bay, presented facilities for disembarkation. Lord Burleigh procured a plan of the Cobb, which was copied on the margin of a large map, now in the king's library. Sir John Norris, in his advice to the county [Harl. MS.], recommended, "that on the approach of the enemy the whole force should assemble at Weymouth, except such as are appointed for the guard of particular places, as at Lyme 60 foot." He elsewhere asserts, what has been subsequently disproved, that Lyme "is not easy to be put in any manner of defence." Mr. Strangeways appointed the sixty men who were to guard Lyme, and keep a look out for the enemy's fleet. The townsmen were not negligent in promoting the public safety: they sent two ships, the *Jacob*, of ninety tons, and the *Revenge*, Richard Bedford, of sixty tons, to serve under the lord admiral, who was about to sail against the armada. The decisive engagement between the two fleets was fought in sight of Lyme: the hills on every part of the coast were covered with spectators, who awaited, with inexpressible anxiety, the

termination of the fight. The whole extent of the bay, as far as was visible, was covered with ships. The brave admirals, having received reinforcements from the different ports, then ventured to engage the proud foe more closely. They went into action with their ships in sight of Lyme. When the Spaniards drew near Portland Race, in their way to Flanders, they kept much closer together, having sustained considerable damage, and the English fleet gave over the pursuit.

Queen Elizabeth, June 16, 1559, by charter sets forth, "that this borough was an ancient populous town, of the ancient demesne of the crown; and that the mayor, burgesses, and inhabitants had enjoyed divers privileges, &c. by charter of several of her predecessors; and that the port is ancient and fenced by a great and sumptuous structure built with mighty stones and rocks, and maintained by the mayor and burgesses at great cost, for which they have been accustomed to receive certain customs, called Cobb-duties, on all merchandize brought in and exposed in the said port called the Cobb." She constitutes the mayor, burgesses, and inhabitants a body corporate and free borough, to purchase lands, chattels, &c., and to plead or be impleaded in any court; to have a common seal and change it; ordains a mayor and six burgesses to be called the common council of the borough, whereof the mayor and two burgesses to be three, with power to make laws for the good government of the town, and inflict penalties for non-observance; and constitutes a mayor and eleven other capital burgesses, William Ellesdon, then mayor, to be the first, Mr. John Hassard, sen.,

Robert Hassard, sen., John Seward, and eight other inhabitants, to be the first capital burgesses, during life, or good behaviour, who, or the majority, shall choose four other inhabitants capital burgesses, so as the whole number does not exceed sixteen in all; in case of the death or removal of any capital burgess the others to choose another; the capital burgesses, on Monday after Saint Bartholomew's day, to choose one of the capital burgesses mayor, who shall be sworn on Monday after Michaelmas day, to continue for that year; if the mayor shall die or be removed, another to be elected in like manner for the remainder of the year. She grants power to choose a recorder (George Wadham to be the first) and a common clerk, who may have a deputy; the mayor and burgesses to elect inferior officers on Monday after Saint Bartholomew's day; if the mayor and others are elected and refuse such offices, the mayor and burgesses shall commit or fine them; the mayor and burgesses to choose two serjeants at mace or club, one nominated by the mayor, the other by the mayor and capital burgesses, yearly, on Monday after Saint Bartholomew's day, for one year, who shall bear before the mayor maces gilt with gold or silver, on which shall be engraven the arms of England; the mayor during his mayoralty shall be justice of peace, except in matters touching life or limb. She grants licence to purchase lands, &c., not exceeding £40 per annum; a court of hustings to be held on the days heretofore accustomed; and to the mayor and burgesses all liberties and privileges, &c., without hindrance from the king or his officers.

About the latter part of Elizabeth's reign the town was

in a very flourishing condition: some conjecture that it contained between four and five thousand inhabitants—others never more than three. At that time the lowest situations were in repute; and it appears that those spots up the hill, which are now sought after with such avidity, were neglected on account of their distance from the key. The generality of the houses were high and roomy, and only inhabited from the second story upwards, the cellars and first floor being a receptacle for merchandize or store. The narrow streets that surrounded the George Inn were the residences of many rich merchants, who lived there, surrounded by their warehouses, almost debarred the light of the sun.

The reign of Elizabeth was extremely favourable to the trade of England. Great inducements were offered to merchants for the extension of their commercial transactions, who began to be independent of foreign agents, and were enabled to emulate the successful voyages of the Spaniards and Portuguese to America, Guinea, &c. Although England claimed the sovereignty of the sea, navigation was but in its infancy, and voyages to distant parts attended with great risk, besides the danger of storms, from the little knowledge of foreign countries possessed by less experienced navigators. Those individuals who were sufficiently enterprising to ship cargoes to other quarters of the globe most appropriately styled themselves “Marchant adventrers.” Many of them resided in Lyme about the year 1600: their speculations were carried on to a great extent, and large fortunes were rapidly acquired. The merchants lived in good style, and employed an ex-

tensive capital. They rebuilt the Cobb in the shape of a demi-lune, at the same time improving and extending it by the addition of an outer pier.

The George was the principal inn in the town: it had stabling to accommodate an almost incredible number of pack-horses, employed in conveying into the interior the merchandize purchased at Lyme. It was built of Dutch bricks, and the premises were so extensive that at night, after the gates were closed, it resembled a little town. Sir Walter Raleigh procured a licence from the queen for the sale of foreign wines, in which were enumerated all the most rare and costly. Coomb-street, as was before observed, contained some of the principal houses, the cellars of which opened towards the river, and there is every reason to suppose that some work existed (probably a flood-gate) which enabled merchants to receive their goods by boat at the entrance of the cellars. The river was confined by strong walls, and subsequently, when the town declined, and the disposition of the mouth of the river was changed, spring tides flowing up the stream occasioned some of the cellars to be flooded, though the water remained twenty feet below the surface of the street. This circumstance having been noticed by a topographic writer, has given rise to the most ridiculous misrepresentations in several works of that nature, which to the latest editions have never been expunged. Near the key, in the road leading to the Cobb, was the Cobb-gate, where was collected a toll on every article brought into the town.

When James ascended the throne many respectable individuals came to settle, and were admitted into the borough,—several were unconnected with commerce. That distinguished native of Lyme, Sir George Summers, resided in the vicinity, at Barne. It was probably at his suggestion that the merchants shortly after directed their views to America. He was engaged, 1607, in transporting a colony to Virginia, and took with him many from Lyme and its vicinity, who were destined to lay the foundation of a transatlantic Lyme, in the interior of North America. They were, like the followers of Æneas, exposed to innumerable dangers, and of rather a novel character, being obliged to run ashore on a land which sailors were afraid to approach, and to navigate in a ship that had but one iron bolt. The Bermuda Islands were considered as the abode of evil spirits.* Having in a brief biographical notice of Sir George Sumners alluded to the colony he had the direction of, the reader is referred to it for further particulars. A few years since a native of Lyme, who happened to be on the quay at New York, was surprised to see two vessels sail by with “Lyme” marked on their sterns. Not ever having heard of a town of that name in America, he felt anxious to make some enquiries of the masters, and going on board introduced himself by saying he was from Lyme, in Dorsetshire. One of the masters said he had never been there, but had often seen the name on maps of England, and asked if it were not near Portland? On being answered in the affirmative, he said, “We have a Portland, too, in

* See Bermudas in any large Encyclopædia.

the river close by us." This, on enquiry, proved to be a head-land. They neither of them knew any thing of the origin of their town, not being natives, but had settled there in consequence of the extensive trade carried on in Lyme, which within a few years had, from a very inconsiderable place, become a populous town. It is in Grafton county, New Hampshire. There is another town of the same name, founded subsequently, in New London county, Connecticut, which contains, in three parishes, 4380 inhabitants.

The townsmen petitioned James to confirm privileges before granted for the better execution of justice in the borough, " whereto mariners continually resort." They mentioned that the sessions for the county were often held thirty miles distant, and set forth the great expence they had incurred in the repair of the Cobb. The king, A. R. 19, granted, by charter, " that every mayor, for two whole years after he is out of office, the recorder, and coroner, shall be justices of peace, whereof the mayor and his last predecessor and recorder shall be one, shall have power to enquire into felonies as other justices; that the mayor and his two last predecessors and the recorder be one, shall keep a general sessions of the peace in the borough; that the recorder and coroner shall be sworn to execute their office faithfully, as also every person chosen mayor or justice of peace; that the mayor and capital burgeses may choose a coroner and other officers, as they have been accustomed to do; that none shall carry away stones out of the sea, or sea-shore, in the borough or parish, to build or repair houses in any place forbidden." He confirms all

privileges, &c. enjoyed by former charters, custom, or prescriptions, paying the accustomed fee-farm rents.

There was a lucrative trade carried on with Guinea, from which were imported the usual commodities of elephants' teeth and gold dust. From the first settlement of Virginia the merchants appear to have directed their attention to the rising colony, and to have maintained a communication with it. The duties paid to government from Lyme were very considerable: during the latter part of James's reign they amounted some years to more than £5000 per annum. Valuable cargoes were imported from the West Indies, Spain, Portugal, and the Streights.

King Charles I., A. R. 10, by charter confirms Queen Elizabeth's grant of the borough to the mayor and burgesses, recites the first clause, and adds, "that of late by inundations of the sea the walls of the town are decayed, and want great reparation, in consideration that the town is situated on the sea, and the Cobb cannot be maintained without great and continual expence, the king grants to the mayor and burgesses the borough and Cobb, and all liberties, &c. belonging to them in fee-farm, paying for the town five marks, and for the Cobb half a mark; releases twenty-seven marks, parcel of thirty-two marks; the mayor and burgesses to repair all structures, bank of the sea-shore, ramparts, and ditches, at their own charge for ever; grants to them that the mayor be clerk of the market, and clerk of the marshal of the king's house, and all fines, &c. forfeited to the clerk of the market; grants them power to dig stones within the borough and parish,

without the seas, and in the sea-shore adjoining, to repair the port, Cobb, and other works of the town; grants to them all liberties, &c. without lett of him or his heirs."

The measures adopted by Charles soon after this grant were deemed so unconstitutional that the obligations of his charter appeared to be forgotten. In 1636 the sum of £40 was required of Lyme for the building of a ship of five hundred tons burthen. The collecting that unpopular tax, ship-money, alienated the affections of the Lyme merchants—some further demands inspired them with disgust—and we shall see how firmly they opposed such measures by early uniting with the Parliament.

The close of the reign of Charles the First is supposed to have been the period when Lyme, improved by various circumstances, and enriched by the successful enterprizes of the numerous merchant adventurers of great respectability, continued to flourish as a place of wealth and trade. The impending storm, which had so long threatened the nation, burst forth into civil war, unfortunately involving Lyme in troubles and confusion: its peaceful, though speculating sons, abandoned for a time the sober occupations of commerce, and, conducted by valiant and determined leaders, sought glory in the field.—The situation of the town early attracted the notice of the Parliament, who availed themselves of the bias of the inhabitants towards their cause. In 1642 Sir Thomas Trenchard and Sir Walter Erle* took possession of it for the Parliament.

* Sir Walter Erle was then possessed of the neighbouring parish of Axmouth, and had represented Lyme in Parliament several times.

Lyme was then the key of the west: until it could be taken little prospect was afforded the king of making any impression upon these parts. The Parliament were masters of the sea, and no supplies could be conveyed, or trade carried on, but by their agents. At the most critical conjunctures both the contending parties looked with anxiety towards Lyme, as the exertions made by either, together with the evidence of existing documents, sufficiently demonstrate. A description of its immediate connection with the military operations in the west is here, for the first time, attempted;* but it will be necessary to mention, that many of the most interesting particulars of the multifarious transactions that occurred are now irretrievably lost.

The first care of the Parliament was to fortify Lyme, to secure it from any attempts the Royalists might make in order to gain possession of it. This was partially effected the same year, all classes labouring towards the erection of different works, in which the females not only joined, but encouraged the men who desisted from fatigue

He borrowed money at the beginning of Charles's reign for fitting out a fleet.

* These most remarkable transactions that occurred at Lyme during the civil wars are principally abstracted from Rushworth, Clarendon, Mercurius Aulicus, Vicars, Whitlock, &c., with an abridgment of the MS. of the siege of Lyme by the king's forces, never before printed; also, an interesting extract from a little work, entitled "Clastrum Regale Reseratum," now very scarce, describing Charles the Second's attempt to escape from Charmouth by means of a Lyme vessel, and particulars of his secretion there, &c.

set, and got several officers and men from Lyme; but Lord Paulet, Sir John Berkley, Sir Richard Cholmley, Colonel Bluet, &c., attacked them at Hamcock Castle, took the town, forced the rebels into the castle, who surrendered it next morning, in which were two hundred prisoners, ten officers, and eighty horse.*

Whitechurch Castle, which remained in the king's hands, was a great check on the garrison of Lyme. Captain Thomas Pyne, with a party from thence, took it, March 12, with fifty prisoners and two pieces of ordnance.†

March 15th, intelligence came that Captain Ware, with a party from Lyme, was surprised, and most of his men taken prisoners and carried to Culliton. Captain Thomas Pyne went, with a party of the garrison, the same night, surprised them, took the colonel, several inferior officers, sixty soldiers, many horse, arms, &c.‡

About March 16, intelligence came that this garrison had taken Bridport. Soon after Busley House, a mile from Bridport [perhaps Chideock], was taken by Captain Pyne and a party of horse and dragoons, and in it fifty prisoners and two pieces of ordnance. He garrisoned it with two hundred men, who compelled contributions from Bridport, and eleven parishes adjacent, which before had been paid by them to the king.†

From this date Lyme took a conspicuous part in the

* Mercurius Aulicus. † Whitlock. ‡ Whitlock, Vicers, Parl. Chron.

proceedings of the west. The king had hopes of taking it by means of an expedition then advancing towards this part of the country.

August 14, 1643, there was a regiment, consisting of ten companies, commanded by the governor. About this time, after the reduction of Dorchester, Prince Maurice summoned Lyme, which not being done while their fears were fresh, they returned so peremptory a refusal that he left it, and marched to Exeter.*

Besides the numerous captains, Pyne, Davis, Erle, Gaitch, Marsh, Ware, &c., the governor was assisted by the celebrated Admiral Blake, who fought with the Lyme garrison as lieutenant-colonel, and eminently distinguished himself.

Nothing of particular consequence transpired at Lyme during the latter part of the year, as the garrison were undisputed masters of the neighbourhood. At the commencement of the year 1644 the king was determined upon subduing the town, which, situated by nature so as to be scarcely capable of defence, contained at that time so many resolute spirits that it engaged the king to send a numerous body of men, and a complete train of artillery, under the command of Prince Maurice, brother of Prince Rupert, to besiege it. Prince Maurice and his forces were quartered at Beaminster April 14; but a fire breaking out, which destroyed the greater part of the town, he

* Clarendon, vol. 2, 336.

advanced towards Lyme, and commenced a siege the most remarkable of any that occurred during that unhappy period. He was assisted in his attempt upon Lyme by Sir John Stowel, Sir John Berkley, Lord Paulet, Colonel Francis Bluet, and other brave officers, with an army principally composed of Irishmen. The resistance of the townsmen was most obstinate: their courage was increased by the vehement harangues and violent rhapsodies of twenty-five puritanical preachers, as the Mercurius Aulicus relates, who confidently assured eternal salvation to those who should fall in the contest. The townsmen, aware of the approaching struggle, awaited the commencement of hostilities with firmness. Like the followers of Mahomet, they learned to look on death with diminished terror, the more they became inflamed by the powerful vapours of enthusiasm. The women, in the heat of conflict, while the work of destruction went rapidly on before their eyes, regardless of danger, carried ammunition to the soldiers, and frequently assisted in keeping the lines. Disguised by means of red cloaks and men's hats, they shewed themselves on the works, when the soldiers were worn out with fatigue. The besiegers, deceived by this artifice, lay close in their batteries, when otherwise they would have stormed and taken the principal ones in the town's defence. Their determined zeal and resolute perseverance during the severest privations have caused a comparison to be drawn between them and the celebrated Joan d'Arc. Their numerous feats are recorded by James Strong, in his "Joanereidos, or Feminine Valour eminently discovered in West Country Women, at the Siege of Lyme, 1644."

One woman is said to have fired at one attack sixteen muskets. A maid, who had one of her hands cut off in the confusion attending the fight, being asked what course she would now take to live,—“Truly,” said she, “I am glad with all my heart that I had a hand to lose for Jesus Christ, for whose cause I am willing to lose not only my other hand, but my life also.” Vicars, who records this, exclaims,—“A sweet and most saint-like speech indeed! Such admirable courage it pleased the Lord to infuse into the hearts of all the inhabitants during all the time of that long and sharp siege.”

On the arrival of the Prince's forces a trumpeter summoned the townsmen to surrender; to which they returned, as the *Mercurius Aulicus* states, a very insolent answer, and declared they would grant no quarter to any Irish or Cornish.

The subjoined account of the siege of Lyme is from a MS. found in White Lackington House, 1786:—

“An account of the most remarkable passages that happened at the streight siege of Lyme Regis by Prince Maurice, from the time of his sitting down before it, being the 20th of April, in the twentieth year of King Charles, unto the 16th of June following, 1644:—

“In the aforesaid 20th of April the enemy appeared on a certain hill, called Uplyme-hill, about two miles distant from Lyme-Regis, near the midway between the enemy's quarters at Axminster and Lyme, where the sol-

diers were mustered; and as it grew near the evening they advanced towards the town, about three quarters of a mile nearer the edge of the hill, and ordered the whole body of horse and foot in view of all the town, as was judged and discovered through the perspective glasses, in abreast three or four troops, a mile in length, or thereabouts, and esteemed by some in all 3000, by others 4000, and somewhat more, being in all, as afterwards appeared, 4500. In the town were near 500 fighting men, more or less, who were not a jot dismayed at the sight of the enemy, but rather longed to have dealt with them; and so shouted to the enemy, and the enemy answered them with shoutings; and they and some musqueteers of the enemy crept towards the hill, and fell on a house called Haye, a quarter of a mile distant from the town, where we had planted a garrison of thirty men, who making some skirmish with the enemy, at length forsook the house and entered into the town, &c.

“ April 21st.—We killed forty musqueteers that day, as they lay in the ditches and hedges shooting at us, from the line and fort, as was afterwards confessed by some prisoners.

“ April 22d.—On Monday night the enemy raised a battery on the west side of the town, to play with their ordnance upon our west fort, which did shortly beat down the top thereof, being but slightly built. Some culverins played all the next day, and did a little execution on the houses. Their musqueteers slew one man in the line, as

was he indiscreetly looking over,—such exquisite firemen were the enemy.

“ April 23d, Tuesday.—The governor of the town dispatched an express to Captain Syndingham, there desiring him to give intelligence to Sir William Waller of the condition of the town. But Captain Syndingham’s diligence and care for the cause of the town were such that he hired a boat to send us, which cost £3; which when the town perceived the boat make in towards them, presently dispatched a sloop, and also a barge of the town, wherein were fifteen prisoners, for their better security, to meet the Pool sloop, lest it had been a boat of Weymouth to have landed ammunition at Charmouth for the enemy; which when the Pool sloop perceived, having formerly struck her sails, applying himself to his oars, presently hoisted sails again and made backward to Portland Point with might and main, and returned with this answer, ‘ that we were besieged by sea and land,’ supposing our sloop and barge to be Dunkirk frigates. On this day, about six of the clock in the morning, the governor drew out about 190 men, who longed to fight with their enemy more than for a good breakfast, and so sallied out on the west side of the town, gave fire on the enemy ere they espied them, fell upon them boldly with the stocks of their muskets, routing them from their battery, seized on their demy-cannon, pursuing them to the top of the hill, killing and slaying them till they fired other ordnance on them of the town, causing them to retreat with the co—

hours of the battery, thirty-five common men, and near a hundred slain.

“ April 24th.—Nothing done but playing with ordnance on both sides; unless certain Dunkirk frigates, in a liege with the enemy visiting our coast, supposing those within the town had been ready to have betaken themselves to sue for succour, and so to have transported them elsewhere. But they chose rather (if they had been so streightened) to have issued forth and defended themselves valiantly.

“ April 25th.—The enemy raised a new battery in a lane. Now powder and shot began to grow scarce in the town. About five or six o'clock in the afternoon the aforementioned ship, with the fifteen prisoners, was either betrayed or so negligently kept that they became keepers of their keepers; and so hoisted sail, brandishing their swords in sign of victory, for Weymouth.

“ April 26th.—Early appeared in sight two goodly looking vessels making towards the town. The joy that was in the town, when they perceived them to be friends, was inexpressible; and on the other hand a great concern to the enemy, who expected the Earl of Marlborough. But these ships were under the command of the Captain Man, who had letters of *marque* from the Parliament. This day Captain Marsh, the commander of a fort, was slain with a musquet shot.

“ April 27th.—The enemy shot grenades into the town

from Colway Battery, which did no hurt. They raised a new battery in the east side of the town, which struck some terror in them of the town, fearing it would at least beat down Captain Davis's fort, the stay of all. It quickly drove Captain Newel out of his fort, killing one or more, and doing some small hurt to the houses.

"Now the enemy had been about the town as far as they could go for the sea, and assayed all ways and means but storming, and could not prevail, which made them hopeless of ever gaining the town.

"April 28th, being the Sabbath-day.—They made an offer to storm the town, blew up their trumpets, beat their drums, and sounded an alarm about the town, and approached very near the line, so that case-shot from the ordnance did great execution upon them; which the poor soldiers perceiving, and loving their lives best, would not venture farther; at the same time many of them being forced men, and ever and anon the horse were obliged to beat on the foot, slashing and hewing them with their swords, else they would have run away to their homes. This time the enemy lost sixty or eighty men.

"Their enemy shot so fiercely their small shot that it was perceived off Portland Point early in the morning by Captain Somer, of the 'Mary Rose,' and Captain Jones, of the 'Ann Joyce,' two Parliament ships of good burthen, the one carrying brass pieces, the other a merchantman, laden with beef, pork, pease, butter, cheese, &c. One man was this day slain by the wind of a bullet (as

was supposed) for no wound appeared on his body; another had his chin struck away with the same bullet.

“ April 29th, Monday.—The enemy shot fire-arrows into the town, which by good providence did no harm. One hundred men landed from the ships.

“ April 30th.—The enemy gave the town a small alarm, and so retreated. The governor dispatched a townsman to Sir William Waller.

“ May 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th.—The enemy lay quiet. The weather being turbulent, the townsmen doubted of the riding of the ships in the road,—yet they remained at anchor.

“ May 6th, being Monday.—The enemy stormed the town in three places, about seven or eight o'clock in the evening, while most of the soldiers were absent to their suppers, during a thick fog. A man would marvel to see how each soldier ran to his post when the alarm was sounded in the town. The enemy cried, ‘ Fall on, fall on, the town is our's, the town is our's!’ The commanders of the forlorn hope leading up their men, such as would come gallantly, they within the town entertained them with no less courage, crying, ‘ Come on, you rogues, we are ready to receive you!’ Although I approve not such language, yet I here insert it to show the courage of the soldiers. Afterwards, when the lines were replenished, and the soldiers all at their quarters, within the space of less than an hour (each party contending for the mastery),

the enemy was repelled from the line, and constrained of fly, leaving behind their scaling ladders, which they brought with them, having also hand-grenades and pikes with grenades on the top of them, which the townsmen took in the conflict. It might appear to be slain on their side in all one hundred, and that they were weakened in all four or five hundred; there were taken two hundred arms, as musquets, pikes, and croselets. Among the many commanders and gentlemen of quality slain was Colonel Francis Blewitt, whose body was found besmeared with blood and dirt, and was caused to be brought from the field into the town on a ladder. This end had he, who whilst he lived was an extreme and bitter enemy to the Parliament. In his body appeared three mortal wounds,—two in his back, supposed to be with a brace of bullets out of a musquet, and another in his head. On the town's part was only one man slain and another wounded.

“ May 7th.—The enemy craved a parley for the burial of the slain, and demanded the body of the said Francis Blewitt, which was granted, on condition the town might have all such arms as were to be found in the field where the dead lay, which was also granted; and for the body of the said Blewitt, which was granted, demand was made by the town to have in exchange one Mr. Harvey, brother-in-law to the governor; but the thing was left entirely to the prince's pleasure, who sent answer that he would not be tied to any such condition: so the dead corpse was carried, coffined and beshrouded, by the townsmen, to the west end of the town. But the prince would not release Mr. Harvey, though he never took up arms

against him, but was taking a Mr. Allford, a merchant, a prisoner to Portsmouth, supposed by some to be a malignant and a desperate one, because he was not over forward in the cause, and especially because he had a son in arms against it, and at this time before the town. I cannot condemn the man altogether justly.

“ This day Colonel Blake (who was officer in chief of all Colonel Popham’s regiment in the town) told a commander of the enemy, that if the prince desires to come into the town with his army they would pull down the walls so that he might come in ten abreast. Answer was made, they would come in where they thought it was meet for their advantage.

“ May 8th.—The town doubted of an answer by the enemy gathering themselves in a body, which kept them within the town in a very streight posture all the day; and the night following Captain Pawlett, of Milplash (taken by the townsmen in the storm) died of his wounds. This day also a Parliament man-of-war, Captain Cook, arrived with his ship in further aid of the town, and supplied it out of his own provision with necessities.

“ May 10th.—The townsmen sent out a party in the west to remove the enemy’s quarters near the line.

“ May 11th.—Sir William Waller’s answer, accompanied with six Parliament ships (in one of which were 240 soldiers), were sent to strengthen the garrison, by Sir William Waller, under the command of Major — , which

much encouraged the townsmen, and daunted the enemy, who fired several pieces of ordnance while they were landing, but did no hurt. This very day were slain in Captain Davis's fort three men, as they were singing a psalm with the minister at the request of an honest man.

" May 12th.—Mr. Pley was sent once more to Sir William Waller. The enemy shot more fire-arrows, but without doing any hurt, and raised two batteries.

" May 13th.—A demy-cannon landed from the ' May-Flower.'

" May 14th.—The enemy lay very silent, thinking at last to make us weary with nothing doing, therefore the townsmen sent out a party to rouse them.

" May 15th.—Captain Mylene, commander of a Parliament ship that lay before Lyme at this time, under the command of the Right Hon. the Earl of Warwick, the lord high admiral appointed by the Parliament, brought 120 men from Portsmouth, under the command of a pious and valiant captain, called Chase. The enemy hard at work on their breast-work, intending to keep it company as long as they can. Also the townsmen began a fort in the Cleeves, between Captain Davis's fort and the church.

" May 16th.—They planted a demy-culverin, and played with it on the old burnt walls in the west with some success.

“ May 17th. —They fired sixteen pieces of ordnance on the Cobb, and did some harm to the ships there. Rain, with much thunder and lightning, caused a pacification the afternoon space.

“ May 18th.—The enemy tauntingly from their works called to ask when they should have another sally. The townsmen (that very well knew there was a rod in brine for them, that lay not far off neither, I mean a party of 120 men or more waiting when the day-light appeared to fall on them,) answered they should have one shortly, and that they would cry, ‘O, good gentlemen, I pray you give us quarter.’ And so it fell out indeed: for they suddenly fell on them, slew near twenty, and took twenty prisoners.—This night the enemy raised a new battery on the west side of the town. A party of thirty sallied out in the evening, slew twenty, and retreated with the loss of two men. They that were wounded of the enemy lay crying, ‘ Bloody men, bloody men!’

“ May 19th.—The town ordnance kept playing on the breast-works of the enemy near the Cobb.

“ May 20th.—Little was done on either side but playing with the ordnance. A certain boy of the enemy stole away the townsmen’s colours from the Cobb, while two boys lay sleeping in the barques. A piece of ordnance in Deyes’ meadow was found to have a broad nail driven into the touch-hole thereof and primed upon it, and when fired the nail appeared. Likewise, near about the time of storming on the 6th of May, there were ten or twelve

musquets that had their touch-holes primed, some with a stick, others with pins; others had their scouring rods stolen; another his sword bowed and thrown aside: which argues the town is not clear of traitors.

“ May 21st.—The assailants raised a new battery with cannon-baskets on the cliff next the Cobb, so that they could not go unless they would work on the strand home to the water. There was another of defendants slain near Captain Gaytch’s fort. This happeneth by means the town lieth in a bottom, and the enemy above them on both sides so near that the townsmen lay open to their view whensoever they walk to come under their line, and towards their work. They seeing this were constrained to make a ditch and bank, to the end they may walk more securely.—A pretty strong easterly wind caused the Parliament ships to ride somewhat unquietly.

“ May 22d.—A very fatal day to the shipping of the town lying in the Cobb, as you shall hear anon. In the morning a small vessel, wherein were three hundred bushels of malt and pease for the town store, was brought to the Cobb-gate, to be unloaded somewhat the sooner and easier. After the townsmen had begun to unload, the same barge being brought under the command of the enemy’s ordnance, who having a good gunner played on it and sunk it, and the malt and pease were spoiled. Nevertheless half for half being offered, six soldiers and others began to unload, but it was not long ere a ball from the assailants struck out the brains of one, and through the thigh of another very dangerously, and so they left

their work. This unhappy beginning of the day was not the worst, for about seven o'clock in the evening the assailants, to the number of fifty or sixty, ran down suddenly from their work, and so into the Cobb, where the barges lay, casting in wild-fire amongst them, and so that night burnt most of them. A party of twenty or thirty men, placed in the Cobb for the better security of the vessels, fled into the boats and so quitted the Cobb. While these things were doing defendants sallied out on them, took their new battery on the edge of the cliff, and forced the enemy to fly. Whereupon the enemy's horse forcing on their foot again caused defendants to retreat, and so fell on again into the Cobb, firing other ships with their fire-balls. Divers of the enemy were slain. The defendants lost five or six men, or more, one who was a principal instrument in the defence of the town, named Captain Pyne, mortally wounded, who had the command of the horse of the town, a very valiant man. This disaster you cannot but think much troubled the town; and 'twas a sad spectacle to behold the burning of so many ships, that formerly brought into the kingdom so great commodity (though but a little town), that the custom or import thereof brought into the king's exchequer yearly four or five thousand pounds, six, sometimes more. The loss of the ships was not so much lamented as the loss of Captain Pyne yielded for dead, for more ships might be had again, but such a man is rarely to be found.

“ May 23d.—In the morning arrived the Right Hon. the Earl of Warwick, lord high admiral of all England, eight ships accompanying him. He sent his surgeon to

dress the wounds of Captain Pyne, and to promise all the assistance he could spare, either for men or provision, and also to desire some commanders of the town to come and consult with him on its welfare. Six men in a little boat attempted to tow out a vessel that remained unburnt, which being perceived by the enemy, and forthwith a shot struck through, carried off one man's leg, and made such a hole in the boat that they were forced to stop it with their hats, and so came away. A shot being made from the town on some of the enemy that were busy at the Cobb, slew two or three of them. Three or four men within the town being at variance about dividing their victuals (not for that there was any want thereof), the enemy perceiving the contention fired a piece of ordnance, which missed them. The 'Mary Rose' sailed for Portsmouth to victual herself anew with some passengers, who were carried on board yesterday for the relief of the town. This day a letter was sent to Prince Maurice from Mr. Peters, chaplain to the lord high admiral.

" May 24th.—Little was done this day but with the ordnance.

" May 25th.—The enemy placed a piece or two of ordnance in their battery upon the edge of the cliff, so that the town is barred from landing of any provision or necessities by day, as appeared by the enemy's shooting at a shallop of the lord admiral, which constrained it to continue at sea till evening, bringing one day's provision of biscuits for the town, and news that the lord admiral had taken a vessel laden with coals, which he would bestow

on the town, and also that the mariners and soldiers on board had sent thirty pair of boots, besides many pair of shoes, so great was their zeal and affection to the poor town thus streightened and contending with so many malicious enemies. The lord high admiral engaged himself to send four hundred mariners to keep the town, while the garrison should sally out to beat up the enemy's quarters. At this time also Prince Maurice sent a message into the town, 'to have his prisoners there well dealt withal about their victuals, according as he should deal with towns-men, having an intimation they were scanted thereof.' An answer was sent him back by the governor, 'that if the prince would be pleased to supply them with a more plentiful portion, (he having the command of the country, and well stored,) they should be sure to have whatsoever he pleased to send them;' or if he would exchange them man for man, according to the law of arms, he should be ready so to do, if not he should send them farther.

" May 26th.—Now that valiant captain, Thomas Pyne, died of a fever, occasioned by his wounds received the 22d.

" May 27th, Monday.—About three o'clock in the morning the body of the said Captain Thomas Pyne was interred in the chancel of the parish church of the said town of Lyme Regis; and while his body was honoured with a volley of shot round about the town, (first the gunners discharged their ordnance, then the musqueteers,) presently the enemy blew up their trumpets, and appeared for to storm the town. Forthwith the enemy's ord-

nance began to batter on the houses, and slew some of the garrison about, they having planted their ordnance so that the enemy's quarters on the west did batter the eastern quarters of the town, and their eastern on the town's western, by means the town was in a pit. They showed forth their scaling ladders on divers quarters, and played on Captain Marsh's quarters, and made a breach in the line, but so as they dared not to be so bold as to enter the town in a body, and so the townsmen ever and anon cast up fresh earth. At last the enemy made an offer to enter the town on two several quarters, where they battered in the forenoon: they came on thinly, but fiercely, and were entertained with like valour by the townsmen, who soon repelled them, slew sixteen on the spot of them, besides such as were taken prisoners. Their common soldiers loving their lives better than such service, waited an opportunity to run away rather than to fight. There were divers of the enemy's commanders slain this time. A parley being desired by the enemy presently after their repulse, would not be granted by the governor so suddenly, lest there should be deceit or treachery used by them: Twelve men were slain this day, viz. Lieutenant Jacob, of Tiverton, or thereabouts, one of Colonel John Ware's regiment, and others wounded.

“ May 28th.—There were landed for the relief of the town, that freely came on shore, three hundred mariners.

“ May 29th.—By council taken beforehand, the admiral sent away two ships and six or seven shallops towards Chiddock and Bridport, making as it were to land

some forces in and about those places, which caused the enemy to send a troop of horse or more that way, with some foot. But because our shallops did not land they shortly returned. Now they perceived that they within the town had a design on them, and therefore kept themselves quiet all the forenoon; but about twelve o'clock they began to batter with their ordnance very fiercely, and to shoot grenades into the town, which did no harm; and having made a breach in the line near Marsh's fort, they came on with ladders, six or eight in abreast, not doubting but to have entered. The mariners, many of them, were at first very fearful, and would have withdrawn, but the rest of them very courageously stood to it, reprehending some of them for their timorousness. And thus the fight continued for the space of nearly eight hours, even to the setting of the sun, very hotly; but at last the enemy was forced by necessity to retreat within their works, and so the storm ceased: in which assault were slain of the assailants many a man, of which divers were of quality, whose names were unknown to the defendants; they drew away their slain almost as fast as they fell, leaving behind them forty dead and dying bodies, some say fifty. The evening following they of the town stripped the dead corpses of their enemies, in whose pockets were found divers letters written from Exeter, one among the rest is a letter of ———, who is of the queen's bed-chamber, a fugitive that fled out of the kingdom at the beginning of the Parliament: it was a very wanton letter, and written to the Duchess of Richmond, then about Oxford.—I may not here forget how that many

a good shot was made from Captain Davis's fort and platform on the cliffs during the action, as was thought. Those of the town repaired the breaches.

“ May 30th.—The enemy craved a parley for the burial of the dead, which was granted on this condition, that the town should have the pillage of the field, as arms, and the enemy dead bodies : thus they spent the day without doing any notable thing on their part.—This day they within the town erected two several platforms, one for the scouring of the lane going into the town, in case the enemy should attempt to batter that place, where the breach was made and repaired.—There appeared in sight of the lord admiral, as he lay at anchor in the road, two or three ships bound from the west, whereupon a ship and a frigate were dispatched away to fetch them up.

“ May 31st.—In the morning betimes appeared in sight of the town, about Portland Point, eight ships, which much comforted the town, as they expected news from the east every minute ; and about the same time six others were seen to the west, making towards the town : about noon they all came to anchor by the admiral and his squadron. Now those of the town longed much for the approach of night, to be fully satisfied of what they hoped for, and yet could not be acquainted with till night for the danger of landing. The night being come, Mr. Pley, who was formerly sent to Sir William Waller, brought word that a party of 500 horse were prepared to come to their relief, and that he had brought with him both ammunition and victuals ; with the news also, that the ships in the

west were those dispatched by the Earl of Warwick with a prize, being a Dutch hoy, with two States' men-of-war for her convoy, worth £10,000 and upwards,—to wit, £2500 in ready money, and the freight amounting to £8000 more. All this while the stream and current of things ran very pleasantly; but it continued not very long so, for ere ever this news was well conceited, it happened that the enemy shot fire-arrows into certain houses, which in a short time were consumed to ashes. Yet this little troubled defendants, who determined to unthatch all their houses.—Three died of their wounds this day.

“ June 1st.—All the morning the enemy lay very still till noon, or thereabout, and then on a sudden they had fired the west end of the town in two or three places, and consumed twenty dwellings in two several streets. The enemy played very hotly with their small arms, to the intent the fire may not be quenched: the townsmen did venture on their endeavours to stay the fire, and put it out. While these things were in action, the enemy fired three or four pieces of ordnance, and with one shot struck off both the hands of a woman as she was carrying a pail of water, and struck off one arm of another, and hurt some others. Mr. J. Thomas, a Cornishman, was slain as he was looking through a loop-hole.

“ June 2d.—The enemy lay very quiet. About noon arrived Captain Hawks into the road, with an especial command of the committee of both kingdoms, with an express touching their relief, which follows in these ensuing words:—

“ ‘Gentlemen,

“ ‘ We have received an account of your streights, and have appointed relief for you both by sea and land; and be assured in a very short time such forces shall march towards you as shall, by the blessing of God, raise the siege. We understand, by intercepted letters, that the enemy fear you will dispute with them from line to line, and that they have little ammunition left.

‘ Signed, in the name and by warrant of the committee of both kingdoms, by your very loving friends,

‘ NORTHUMBERLAND.

‘ MAITLAND.

‘ Derby House, May 30th, 1644.’

“ This, with other good news of the prosperity of the Parliament forces in other parts, as that the Earl of Essex had chased the Oxonians from place to place, that Colonel Massey, governor of the city of Gloucester, had taken Beverston Castle, and was come to Devizes; that the king had concluded a peace with the Irish bloody rebels, &c. You need not doubt but the town esteemed this news in general greater gain than the loss by the fire; to see the Parliament had such care and respect towards them, as indeed they well deserved, all things considered, for until the streight siege they never had above £300 from the Parliament, and yet they were contented to continue their services with hopes of better recompence hereafter.

“ June 3d.—The moon giving some light, as seven or eight boats were landing at the Cobb-gate, the enemy fired eight or ten pieces of ordnance, but never hurted one man.

“ June 4th.—A shot from the enemy’s ordnance slew a gunner, as he was washing his feet not far from the

Cobb-gate, where were near by him divers women drying clothes on the strand; one more was slain as he was indiscreetly looking over the works. An Irish man of war was also brought in, that was taken on the Irish coast.

“ June 5th.—Little was done on either side; only the enemy, after their usual course, now and then discharged their small shot.—Some of the town this day died of their wounds.—There came into the town a serjeant and a corporal from the enemy's quarters, being weary of their employ that side. This was confessed by reason of some conference between the enemy and them within the town the night before. They said they wished themselves in the town; that they were deluded men, brought out of Ireland (being Englishmen, which voluntarily went thither for the suppressing the rebellion there,) to fight against the Parliament. These men informed the governor that the enemy did almost despair of ever taking the town, and therefore resolved to burn it if they could; and for this purpose they had procured a witch, who had undertaken to fire the stone-built houses, and further would promise to sink the admiral's squadron of ships, by devilish art and practice: which caused the governor to command certain thatched houses to be uncovered, to prevent them in their purpose (not for fear of the said witch, or any such devilish practice). The aforesaid serjeant confessed that there had been of the enemy, since the beginning of the siege, 42 serjeants and 12 gunners slain.

“ June 6th, Thursday.—Little was done this day. A

strong easterly wind made the town uneasy for the ships in the road.

“ June 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th.—Little was done these days.

“ June 11th, Tuesday.—The enemy, to fire the town, shot red hot balls and iron bars. That they might hang on whatsoever they lighted, they were crooked at the ends, one of which kindled a house where the ammunition was, and some other houses, which were saved. Thus the enemy spent the forenoon, though in vain. There were at this time landed twenty-two dozen pair of shoes for the soldiers, which caused some murmuring, because every one had not what they wanted.

“ June 12th.—The townsmen determined to remove the enemy from a platform they were erecting near the line. The combat was not extraordinary, yet it was not the least for hurting the town, there being many killed and died of their wounds.

“ June 13th, being Thursday.—There came into the road, and anchored, three or four ships bound from London to Plymouth, with gentlemen going to put themselves in possession of their new offices there.—About six o'clock in the evening there came into the town a serjeant from the enemy, who gave intelligence that it would not be long ere they would raise the siege, which was agreeable news, and the sooner credited because they observed the day before the removal of a certain tent which they had for their court of guard. The said serjeant informed

the town, that a shot from the town against Colway House killed therein a gunner and one more ; and further, that the enemy had slain from the town, since the siege, colonels, lieutenant-colonels, captains, lieutenants, and ensigns, twenty-five, and twenty-seven gunners and their mates.—In the afternoon sixteen or twenty mariners, without command, sallied out on the enemy, and beat them from their hedge and breast-works in the east.

“ June 14th.—There came from the enemy into the town Captain Phere, with his wife and maid-servant, and twenty-five common soldiers, who having delivered up their arms, desired they might keep their swords, which was granted. They brought news that the enemy was preparing to raise the siege, and that the Parliament forces were not far off.—The townsmen were alarmed by the firing of fire-works, which set some houses in flames. At this time there happened to fall on a bed, in one Robert Newcomb's house, where five children lay, a hot piece of iron, which only scalded one of them.—About six o'clock in the morning the admiral sent three ships, with divers boats of men, towards Charmouth and Chiddock, under pretence of landing there, which caused the enemy to send some men from Colway, though not many, they having been served so before.—About noon the town perceived the enemy to take down their tents, and draw their ordnance with diligence, and therefore began to pluck themselves up, hoping relief near at hand. This while Captain Davis was not idle, for he fired on them wheresoever they appeared, and 'tis thought not without doing execution. A small party issued over the line, and

beat the enemy out of their hedge-works; which being perceived by the enemy, they drew from Colway horse and foot to relieve their friends, lest the town should have fallen on them while they were drawing off their artillery: this caused the party to retire without hurt. In the interim certain countrymen escaped from Charmouth and Uplyme informing that the enemy had laden their carriages, and resolved to be gone with all speed, and that the Earl of Essex or Sir William Waller (by the enemy's own report) was drawing near the town. These things much concerning the town, after a six weeks' siege, they were in hopes of being once more at liberty, and thereupon let fly their small shot, which was severely answered by the enemy.—This evening the townsmen made bold to land again a store of provisions at the Cobb-gate. Night being come on, we only waited the next day's product.

“ June 15th, Saturday.—About two o'clock in the morning the enemy had quitted their works, which was first discovered by two or three of the besieged, who gave fire. No answer being made, they fired a second time; to which no answer being made, they ran violently on the enemy's works, and found them deserted. This being known, every one issued out, some for pillage, others to view the enemy's works, where they unexpectedly found a mine, that they endeavoured to spring, in order to blow up their works on the south side, and within pistol-shot of the town, about ten feet in the earth.—The lord admiral and those in the town received express that the Earl of Essex would be at Dorchester that night, for the town's better encouragement.—The soldiers went on to Colway.

and Hay House, to see what might be found there, and having found much arms and provision, they had a market and sold it there; others went into the fields and green meadows to refresh themselves after so long a siege, and to enjoy the benefit of the fresh air.—This day the young scholar, Sir Thomas Way, died of his wounds, and was buried the next day.—One act of cruelty was committed by the mariners, who finding an old Irish woman of the enemy looking out for her friends, not supposing them to be gone, drove her through the streets to the seaside, slashed and hewed her with their swords, and having robbed her of twenty or forty shillings, cast her dead body into the sea, where it lay till consumed.

“ June 16th, being Sunday, and the day for returning thanks for the town’s deliverance, Mr. Peters preached in the forenoon, chose the 23d verse of the 136th Psalm for his text, and in the afternoon the 7th verse of the first chapter of St. Luke.—This day were sent into the town two messengers, who brought news that the said general was advanced as far as Dorchester, with an army of 13,000 men, horse and foot.”

On the arrival of the Earl of Warwick a journal of the siege, kept by the captains and governors of the town, was forwarded to him. It is there mentioned that Major Harrington was unhappily killed by one of his own men on the 30th of April; and that so many of the enemy were slain that the water which “served the town was coloured with blood.” Vicars says, the Earl of Warwick sailed on the 23d of May on a cruize, with the fol-

lowing ships: Admiral's ship *James*, Captain Thomas Blithe, of 875 tons, 50 guns, and 260 men; the *Constant Reformation*, Captain William Batten, 740 tons, 40 guns, and 250 men; the *Expedition*, Captain Joseph Jordan, 100 men, and 18 guns.

Whitlock observes, that the Irish woman was almost pulled to pieces by the women of the town. Tradition speaks of a hogshead stuck with nails being prepared to roll her into the sea. Probably some excessive cruelty was used towards her, which the writer of the *Siege* omits to make any mention of.

In Rushworth's Collection is a letter from the Earl of Warwick to the Parliament, detailing similar particulars to those already stated, excepting the death of Captain Southern, who wore Lord Pawlet's own armour. In conclusion he observes: "I hope some speedy course will be taken for their relief: their fidelity and courage God hath much honoured; and 'tis pity by delay to hazard the least blunting of their resolution. If Lyme be lost 'twill have a very ill influence, the inclination of these parts depending on the success of that town; which the enemy values not so much for itself as for the men in it, who, if at liberty, will get a strength together, which the country will be well disposed to close with."

Both houses, on the receipt of this intelligence, voted a letter of thanks to his lordship, and ordered that £1000 per annum, out of the Lord Paulet's estate, should be conferred upon the town for their good services, and that

plenary satisfaction should be given to the inhabitants for their losses by the siege.* The expedition they sent to its relief caused the siege to be raised. Prince Maurice's reputation as a general was exposed to censure for having been unable, with so considerable a force, to reduce so apparently untenable a place.

No mention being made in the narrative of the siege of the civil power, we may suppose it took a silent part in the different transactions of that eventful period. During the siege, some cannon being required for a new battery, three of the largest of the five bells were removed from the tower, to be cast for that purpose.

The Parliament, immediately on learning the event of the siege, and the amazing courage and obstinacy evinced by the townsmen in their cause, ordered a letter of thanks to the town and governor, with the following marks of esteem for such eminent services : To the governor, £150 ; to the town a gratuity of £2000, with clothes to be distributed to the soldiers.

On Sunday, June 26, public thanks were offered up in the churches of London for the deliverance of Lyme.

Elated by this succession of fortunate attempts and successful resistance, the garrison continued to assist the Parliamentary cause. They quickly regained their former authority, which had been disturbed by the king's troops

* Rushworth.

in the neighbourhood, and the king again recurred to an attempt towards restraining them in their excursions.

July 28th.—Intelligence came that on the king's march into the west, Lord Henry Piercey's regiment, quartered at Culliton, alarmed Lyme, and retired. That night 120 horse, under Captains Hercules, Pyne, Herle (properly Erle), and Bragg, beat up their quarters, took 120 horse, the major, 55 men, and 100 arms, and dispersed the regiment. About the same time a party from Lyme entered Chard, immediately as the king, with the main body of the army, marched out, and took eleven horses, with rich saddles, supposed to be the king's, and several prisoners.*

In September, some of the garrison of Exeter were assigned to block up Lyme.†

October 3.—A report being circulated that 600 foreign troops, near Shaftesbury, were laying heavy contributions on the inhabitants there, and fines to a large amount if not paid, all the fat cattle were driven into Lyme and other garrisoned towns.

October 25th.—Colonel Ceeley, the governor, went from Lyme, with a party, to attack Sir Richard Cholmeley, son-in-law of Lord Pawlet, who commanded 300 men, posted near Culliton and Axminster: he took 12 officers and 56 men, with their horses and arms. The other part

* Clarendon, Whitlock.

† Mer. Aul.

of Sir Richard's forces were routed and dispersed, and he himself afterwards died of the wound he received in his shoulder.*—A day or two after another party fell in with one of the king's, took several officers, 160 musquets, three barrels of powder, two colours, and five drums. Colonel Bret and Major Hinkley were mortally wounded and died.—Shortly after, a ship belonging to the merchants of Topsham, valued at several thousand pounds, was driven into the Cobb during a violent storm. It was seized and ordered by the Parliament to be sold,—one moiety to be appropriated for the town, the other for the service of the west.

November 8th.—Sir Anthony Ashley Cooper took Abbotshbury, which was an ill neighbour to Lyme.

December 18th.—Major-General Holburn, at the head of a party of the king's forces, retook Whitchurch Castle from the Lyme garrison.

1645.—About the beginning of July forces were marching from the king's quarters to blockade Lyme. Fairfax's success with his army, and Goring's retreat from Taunton, disappointed it.

July 22d.—Lyme was most essentially serviceable to the Parliament about this time, for by it a line of garri- sons was drawn over the isthmus between the South Sea and the Bristol Channel, by Bridgwater, Langport, and

* Whitlock, Vicars.

Lyme. The whole of the counties of Cornwall and Devon (except Plymouth), then devoted to the king, were entirely blocked up from all intercourse with the eastern parts.*

At length, harassed by the depredations of both parties,—for by either party they were sure to suffer,—a number of persons associated in the west, in the year 1645, as neuters, and professedly acted on the principles of self-preservation: they took the name of Clubmen, from their association, or the weapons they used. Denounced by Fairfax in a council of war, in Dorset the Parliament garrisons were active in their suppression, as they prevented provisions from being conveyed to them. Clarendon mentions, that so early as July 8 the Lyme garrison sallied out upon a party, and slew fifty. Hutchins, in his Introduction, gives a full account of the proceedings of the Clubmen.

Whitchurch Castle, then in the hands of the Royalists, much annoyed the neighbourhood. The Lyme garrison took it, July 20, with 100 prisoners, 30 horses, three barrels of powder, arms, ammunition, and provisions. They kept possession of this place till October 1, when Colonel Ceeley charges £1. 19s. for “work about demolishing it.”

May 2, 1646.—General Fairfax requested that Lord Pawlet should be admitted to composition, which, after much debate was allowed; but on a petition from Lyme, the house ordered that they should have repara-

* Hutchins.

tion out of his estate for the losses they had sustained by him.* No military transaction occurred this year.

July 13, 1647.—The Parliament ordered that Lyme works should be dismantled, pursuant to a motion carried in the house that day for slighting garrisons.

November 9.—They settled £200 per annum, out of Lord Paulet's estate, on the town, in consequence of the petition representing the injuries received from him.

Governor Ceeley's account from August 25th, 1642, to March 25th, 1646:—

	£.	s.	d.
Received, 1643, - - -	3992	17	2
1644, - - -	438	18	6
1645, - - -	12957	11	10

Whereof £2825 was for linen cloth taken in the Speedwell, of Topsham.

Received for the use of the Parliament in that garrison, during the time above mentioned, £17,380. 2s. 8d.—Disbursed, £17,456. 16s. 5d.†

Thus, after several years of constant warfare, the inhabitants were at liberty to pursue their former avocations; the greater part of the shipping was, however, destroyed, and many of the townsmen killed, ruined, or imprisoned. At the commencement of hostilities the "malignants"

* Whitlock, Rushworth.

† Rushworth.

were secured and sent away.—During the most active period of the contest, the garrison, in their excursions, frequently seized persons in the country who were accounted Royalists, and plundered their houses. They were always severe to that party: the punishments they inflicted were not unfrequently tinged with cruelty. In order to convey a faint idea of the ravages committed by each party it will be only necessary to mention a few of the houses destroyed in the immediate vicinity, omitting the number beaten to the ground during the siege of Lyme: Stedcombe House, by the king's party; Whitchurch Castle, by the Parliament; the seat of the Drake family, at Ashe, by one of the contending parties; Colway, nearly demolished by the garrison; besides many others at a greater distance, in the destruction of which the Lyme garrison were concerned.

The principal sufferers among the higher classes, whose names appear in Dring's catalogue, were the following, who "after the troubles" compounded for their estates:

	£.	s.	d.
Gregory Alford, merchant, -	10	0	0
Nicholas Deye, - - - -	46	0	0
William Ellesden, - - - -	33	6	8

Of these, Ellesden was of the principal family in the town, Deye of the oldest, and Alford the most active in Charles's cause. They were all imprisoned at different times. No descendants of either family now remain in Lyme.

King Charles the Second, after the battle of Worcester, 1651, lay concealed at Trent, near Sherborne, from

which place of retreat his friends frequently dispersed themselves over the country, for the purpose of procuring a vessel to convey his majesty out of reach of danger. This undertaking was attended with great risk, as parties of soldiers were patrolling the country in every direction, with the hopes of seizing the person of his majesty, who was known to be still in England, and of obtaining the reward offered in the proclamation to whoever should be so fortunate as to secure him. Colonel Wyndham, his hospitable host, informed his neighbour, Sir George Strangeways, of the important guest he then entertained at his house; but he told him "that he knew not any one master of a ship, or so much as one mariner, that he could trust; all that were formerly of his acquaintance in Weymouth being for their loyalty banished and gone beyond the sea, and in Pool and Lime he was a mere stranger, having not one confidant in either."

Mrs. Ann Wyndham published, after the Restoration, a little work descriptive of the dangers the king had been exposed to, entitled, "Boscobel, or the compleat History of the most miraculous Preservation of King Charles the Second after the Battle of Worcester; to which is added, *Clastrum Regale Reseratum*, or the King's Concealment at Trent." From the latter part of this publication has been selected the following passage:—

"About this time the forces under Cromwell were retreated from Worcester into the several quarters of the country. Some of them coming to Trent proclaimed the

overthrow of the king's army, and the death of the king; giving out that he was certainly killed; and one of them affirmed that he saw him dead, and that he was buried among the rest of the slain, no injury being offered to his body, because he was a valiant soldier and a gallant man. This welcome news so tickled the sectaries that they could not hold from expressing their joy by making bonfires, firing of guns, drinking, and other jollities; and for a close of all, to the church they must, and there ring the king's knell. These rude extravagancies moved not his majesty at all, but only (as if he were more troubled for their madness than his own misfortune) to this most christian and compassionate expression, 'Alas, poor people!'

"Now, though the king valued not the menaces of his proud enemies, being confident they could do him no hurt, yet he neglected not to try the faithfulness of his friends to convey him out of their reach. Thus the former design proving unsuccessful, and all hopes of transference that way being laid aside, the colonel [Wyndham] acquainted his majesty that one Captain William Ellesden, of Lime (formerly well known unto him), with his brother, John Ellesden, (by means of Colonel Bullen Reymes, of Wadden, in Dorsetshire,) had conveyed over into France Sir John Berkly (afterwards Lord Berkly) in a time of danger. To this captain therefore his majesty sends the colonel, who, lodging at his house in Lime, took an opportunity to tell him that the Lord Wilmot had made his escape from Worcester, that he lay privately near to him, and that his lordship had earnestly solicited him to use

his utmost endeavours to secure him from the hands of his pursuers. To this purpose he was come to town, and assured the captain, if he would join in this affair, his courtesy should never be forgotten. The captain very cordially embraced the motion, and went with the colonel to Charmouth (a little place near Lime), where, at an inn, he brought to him a tenant of his, one Stephen Limbry, assuring the colonel that he was a right honest man, and a perfect royalist. With this Limbry Colonel Wyndham treated, under the name of Captain Norris, and agreed with him to transport himself and three or four friends into France. The conditions of their agreement were, that before the two and twentieth day of that instant September, Limbry should bring his vessel near Charmouth-road, and on the said two and twentieth, in the night, should receive the colonel and his company into the long-boat from the beach near Charmouth, from thence carry them to his ship, and so land them safe in France. This the colonel conjured Limbry to perform with all secrecy, because all the passengers were of the royal party, and intended to be shipped without leave, to avoid such oaths and engagements which otherwise would be forced upon them; and therefore privacy in this transaction would free him from danger, and themselves from trouble, the true cause why they so earnestly thirsted (for some time) to leave their native country. Limbry's salary was sixty pounds, which the captain engaged to pay at his return from France, upon sight of a certificate under the passengers' hands of their landing there. To the performance of these covenants Limbry, with many vows and protes-

tations, obliging himself, the colonel, with much satisfaction and speed, came back to his majesty and the Lord Wilmot to Trent, who at the narration of these passages expressed no small contentment.

“The business being thus far successfully laid, the king consults how it might be prudentially managed, that so there might be no miscarriage in the prosecution. Necessary it was that his majesty and all his attendants (contrary to the use of travellers) should sit up all the night in the inn at Charmouth, that they ought to have the command of the house, to go in and out at pleasure, the tide not serving till twelve at night. To remove therefore all suspicion and inconvenience this expedient was found out:—Henry Peters (Colonel Wyndham's servant) was sent to Charmouth inn, who inviting the hostess to drink a glass of wine, told her that he served a very gallant master, who had long most affectionately loved a lady in Devon, and had the happiness to be well beloved by her; and though her equal by birth and fortune, yet so unequal was her fate, that by no means could he obtain her friends' consent: and therefore it was agreed between them that he should carry her thence, and marry her among his own allies. And for this purpose his master had sent him to desire her to keep the best chambers for him, intending to be at her house upon the two and twentieth day of that month, in the evening, where he resolved not to lodge, but only to refresh himself and friends, and so travel on either that night or very early next morning. With this love story (thus contrived and acted), together with a

present delivered by Peters from his master, the hostess was so well pleased that she promised him her house and servants should be at his master's command, all which she very justly performed.

“ When the day appointed for his majesty's journey to Charmouth was come, he was pleased to ride before Mrs. Julian Coningsby (the Lady Wyndham's niece), as formerly before Mrs. Lane. The colonel was his majesty's guide, whilst the Lord Wilmot with Peters kept at a convenient distance, that they might not seem to be all of one company.

“ In this manner travelling, they were timely met by Captain Ellesden, and by him conducted to a private house of his brother's among the hills near Charmouth. There his majesty was pleased to discover himself to the captain, and to give him a piece of foreign gold, in which in his solitary hours he made a hole to put a ribbon in. Many like pieces his majesty vouchsafed the colonel and his lady, to be kept as records of his majesty's favour, and of their own fidelity to his most sacred person in the day of his greatest trial, all which they have most thankfully treasured up as the chiefest jewels of their family.

“ This royal company from thence came to the inn at Charmouth a little after night, where Captain Ellesden solemnly engaging to see the master of the ship ready (the wind then blowing fair for France) took leave of his majesty. About an hour after came Limbry to the inn, and assured the colonel all things were prepared, and that

about midnight his long-boat should wait at the place appointed. The set hour drawing nigh, the colonel, with Peters, went to the sea-side (leaving his majesty and the Lord Wilmot in a posture to come upon call), where they remained all night expecting; but seeing no long-boat, neither hearing any message from the master of the ship, at the break of day the colonel returns to the inn, and beseeches the king and the Lord Wilmot to haste from thence. His majesty was entreated; but the Lord Wilmot was desirous to stay behind a little, promising to follow the king to Bridport, where his majesty intended to make a halt for him.

“ When the king was gone the Lord Wilmot sends Peters into Lime, to demand of Captain Ellesden the reason why Limbry broke his promise, and forfeited his word. He seemed much surprised with this message, and said he knew no reason, except, it being a Fair-day, the seamen were drunk in taking their farewell; and withall advised his lordship to be gone, because his stay there could not be safe; but since that Limbry himself hath given this account under his own hand: —That according to our agreement, made at Charmouth, September the 19th, 1651, betwixt myself and one Captain Norris (since known to be Colonel Francis Wyndham), to put forth the ship beyond the Ceb's mouth into Charmouth-road, where his servants, on the 22d of the same month, were all ready in her, waiting his coming; that he going to his house about tea that night, for linen to carry with him, was unexpectedly locked into a chamber by his wife, to whom he had a little before revealed his intended voyage

with some passengers into France, for whose transportation, at his return, he was to receive a considerable sum of money from Captain Ellesdon.

“ This woman, it seems, was frightened into a panic fear by that dreadful proclamation (of the 10th of September) sent out by the men of Westminster, and published that day at Lime. In this a heavy penalty was thundered out against all that should conceal the king, or any of his party, who were at Worcester fight, and a reward of a thousand pounds promised to any that should betray him. She, apprehending the persons her husband engaged to carry over to be royalists, resolved to secure him from danger, by making him a prisoner in his own chamber. All the persuasions he used for his own liberty were in vain, for the more he entreated the more her violent passion increased, breaking forth into such clamours and lamentations that he feared, if he should any longer contend, both himself and the gentlemen he promised to transport would be cast away in the storm without ever going to sea.

“ Thus a design in a business of the highest nature, and carried on with industry and patience, even to the very last promising full hope of a happy production, by one man’s single whisper (the bane of action) proved abortive. For, no doubt, had Limbry kept his covenant, he had gained the honour of conveying over his majesty, of whose noble courage and virtue God was pleased to make yet further trial.”

The following additional particulars occur in the same work :—

“ Surely we cannot, except we wilfully shut our own eyes, but clearly see, and with all reverence and thankfulness adore the divine goodness for his majesty’s signal deliverances in this voyage; especially if, after looking back upon Charmouth, we consider the dangers that threatened him, occasioned by the Lord Wilmot’s short stay there after the king’s departure: for one Hamnet,* a smith, being called to shoe his lordship’s horse, said he well knew, by the fashion of the shoes, that they were never set in the west, but in the north. The hostler, a bird of the same feather, hearing this, began to tell what company had been there, how they sat up and kept their horses saddled all the night, and from hence they concluded that either the king, or some great persons, had certainly been at the inn. The hostler, whose heart was soured against the king, runs presently to one Westley, of the same leaven, then minister of Charmouth, to inform him of these passages, and to ask council what was to be done. This Westley was at his morning exercise, and being something long-winded, the hostler, unwilling to lose his reward, at the gentleman’s taking horse, returns without doing his errand. As soon as my lord was mounted and gone, Hamnet tells Westley of the discourse between him and the hostler. Away comes Westley upon full speed to the inn, and, almost out of breath, asks the woman of the house what guests she had entertained that night.

* A man of Lyme.

She said they were all strangers to her—she knew them not. ‘I tell you then,’ said he, ‘one of them was the king.’ Then hastily turning away from her, he and Hamnet ran to Mr. Butler, of Commer, the justice of peace, to have dispatched abroad his warrants to raise the country for the apprehending the king, and those persons the last night with him at Charmouth. But he spends his mouth in vain—a deaf ear is turned upon him—no warrant would be issued forth. This check given to his zeal so vexed him, that it had like to have caused a suffocation, had not Captain Massey, as errant a Hotspur as himself, given it vent by raising a party, and pursuing the king upon the London road. But God preserved his majesty by diverting him to Broadwinsor, whilst Massey and his hot-mettled company outran their prey as far as Dorchester. The report of the king’s being at Charmouth was grown so common, that the soldiers lying in those parts searched the houses of several gentlemen who were accounted royalists, thinking to surprize them.”

It is worthy of remark, that notwithstanding the earnest endeavours and exertions made by the inhabitants to promote the Parliamentary cause, the Restoration was hailed with every mark of satisfaction and joy. Mr. Short, the vicar, preached a sermon on that memorable event, which was printed, by particular desire of the magistrates.

A great trade was carried on with the merchants of Morlaix in serges and linens, great part of which was manufactured at Lyme, and the remainder supplied from Bridgwater and other inland towns. The population

amounted to nearly three thousand souls, though some entertain an opinion that it exceeded four thousand, the number mentioned by the lord admiral to be contained in the town during the siege, inclusive of the military.

While Cromwell held the reins of government nothing worthy of notice occurred. We must suppose such exertions as have been recorded most sensibly affected the commerce of the town, and that a temporary stagnation followed the destruction of the shipping; which vanished at the return of the arts of society and peace.

It may not be amiss to remark, that after the civil wars there were many persons residing in Lyme and the neighbourhood who differed from the established Church: the Baptists were numerous during the Protectorate. Mr. Short, the vicar, was in 1662 sequestrated for non-conformity, and immediately formed a society of Independents. It is very clear that the sufferers during the rebellion, after the restoration avenged themselves in every possible way upon the dissenters, who began to experience their oppressive treatment as soon as the conspiracies, for which that reign was remarkable, afforded them an excuse for the rigorous execution of the laws against that class of persons. Mr. Gregory Alford was particularly distinguished: owing to his interference Mr. Short was obliged to absent himself. Forbidden by the law to assemble, the dissenters of Lyme are said to have stolen away on particular occasions unperceived, and meeting in the solitudes of Pinney, to have offered up their prayers in a dell between two high rocks, which have ever

since retained the name of Whitechapel Rocks. On removing a partition some years since in an old house, there was discovered an ingeniously concealed oak staircase, capable of admitting one person at a time, which led to a small apartment that had been used as a chapel: on the wall was printed, in large letters, a text of Scripture.

The mayor and burgesses paid for the fee-farm rent of the town and Cobb £1; at the Exchequer, for all fines and issues, and for two fairs, 6s. 8d. They caused a farthing to be struck, 1667, on which were the Lyme arms, viz. two Bars wavy, Az. on a chief, G. a lion passant gardant O.

According to the commission returned into the Exchequer, Lyme is a member of the port of Poole. That part of the road leading from the Custom-house to the beach once formed a portion of the key without the Cobb-gate; and measured, in length, 72 feet on the east side, and on the west 99—in breadth, at the north end 27, and at the south 63 feet. The sea washed the base on the east, and on the west it was bounded by the houses and warehouses of Samuel Whetcombe, merchant. The customs for some years amounted to £16,000 per annum.

March 30, 1660, Cosmo de Medici, grand duke of Tuscany, landed, and proceeded to Dorchester, on his way to London.

In 1672 a naval engagement was fought in sight of Lyme, between the English and Dutch fleets, when the latter being defeated retired to the coast of France.

The expedition of the Duke of Monmouth, viewed as an historical event, claims no ordinary place in the history of England, and is assuredly the most memorable occurrence in the history of Lyme. To insert an introduction of the causes of that attempt, or of the character of the principal personage who figured at Lyme, would be to depart from that brevity professed in the preface. The reader is referred to any of the larger histories, where the subject is fully treated of; though it must be observed that historians are not agreed on the motives of his attempt. Monmouth's Life is reprinted by Smeeton.

These few remarks only will be made. It was in Holland that, surrounded by persons who fled from the tyranny of James, Monmouth determined on and prepared for his expedition. His numerous friends who resided in the west had long maintained a correspondence with him, and were prepared to rise on his arrival.—The following curious and interesting journal of events from Amsterdam to Sedgemoor, kept by one of his adherents, who after the defeat sought safety by flight, and remained abroad until the landing of William, which, from its conciseness, is well adapted to this work, is presented to the reader, in its original diction, at intervals, as the subject requires :—

“ May 24th.—We left Amsterdam about two of the clock, being Sunday morning, and in a lighter sailed for the Texel, our vessels being sent before us thither; but meeting with extreme cross winds all the way, we arrived not till Saturday night, and then went all on board. Here

our man of war, with about 32 guns (where the duke's person was), was under an arrest, by order of the States of Amsterdam, on the complaint of our envoy, they promising we had been clear, but we broke through our arrest, and Sunday morning, at break of day, set sail for England. We had in all three ships; that of 32 guns carried most of our men, the other two were for our ammunition. We met with exceeding cross winds most part of the time we spent on the seas, and arrived not at Lyme till Thursday, June 11th, so that from Amsterdam to Lyme we wanted but two days of three weeks.

“ We landed without the least opposition, and were received with all expressions of joy imaginable. The duke, as soon as he jumped out of the boat on land, called for silence, and then desired we would join with him in returning God thanks for that wonderful preservation we had met with at sea, and accordingly fell on his knees on the sand, and was the mouth of us all in a short ejaculation, and then immediately, well armed, as many as we were, entered the town.”

Monmouth had been for some time expected to land, and very narrowly escaped being intercepted by the king's fleet. His friends on shore, when they discovered the ships making for the Cobb, could not conceal their satisfaction: they embraced one another with every mark of joy, congratulating themselves that they should at last escape the dreaded effects of Popery. When at a short distance from land, those on board Monmouth's vessel called to Samuel Robbins, a poor fisherman of Char-

mouth, then engaged in his occupation, and purchased what fish he had taken; but though he desired to go on shore they would not permit him till after the duke was landed, which eventually cost the poor man his life. By that time great numbers of persons from the town and neighbourhood had assembled to welcome his arrival, or enlist under his standard. The duke could not step from the boat to the shore without wetting his legs, and Lieutenant Bagster, of the navy, who happened to be close to the beach in a boat, jumped into the water, and presented his knee for the duke to step on, which he did, and then reached the shore without inconvenience. He then turned to Lieutenant Bagster, and familiarly striking him on the shoulder, said, "Brave young man, you will join me?" His intrepid answer is worth recording: "No, Sir, I have sworn to be true to my king, and no consideration shall move me from my fidelity."*

The mayor, Mr. Gregory Alford, dispatched messengers to the king, informing him of the duke's landing. It is probable the authorities, with the assistance of the troops near, might have crushed the rebellion in its infancy, by seizing Monmouth on his first landing; but it appears they could not ascertain his strength, and were in dread of a general rise of the interior in his favour. The behaviour of the populace was riotous; the magistrates, from the great increase of his followers, were awed, and remained without in any degree interfering with their proceedings. His declaration was read the

* This anecdote has been carefully preserved in the archives of Bagster family.

same evening in the Market-place, under the Custom-house, followed by the enthusiastic shouts, acclamations, and blessings of the assembled multitude. It does not appear whether the magistrates graced the ceremony by their presence, as was the case in most other corporate towns. An old woman, now living, named Curtis, says her grandfather was obliged to fly for having broken open the town-hall door in order to give the duke possession, and never more returned.

Monmouth proceeded to the George Inn, at that time the principal one in the town, where his officers resided with him. He does not appear to have visited any of the gentry, who it is said were ill inclined towards him. The only persons of repute who ever joined him were the two Messrs. Hewling, Mr. Battiscomb, and Colonel Churchill: these arrived the day after his landing. The officers were dispatched to the neighbouring towns to get recruits, and circulate his declaration or manifesto, printed in Holland; to be ready for distribution on his landing. In it was explained at some length the cause of his landing in this kingdom to be the recovery of his natural rights, asserting the validity of the late king's marriage with his mother, and to free the nation from the despotism of the Duke of York, whom he accused as the author of the dreadful conflagration, by which the greater part of London was laid in ashes—of the late popish plot for taking away the life of the king—of the murder of Essex in the Tower—and of having poisoned the king, his brother. At the same time it represented that his religion inapa-

citated him from swaying the sceptre of England, which could never hope for peace while a papist and a tyrant sat upon the throne. It concluded with, "Now let us play the men for our people, and for the cities of our God, and the Lord do that which seemeth good unto him." Those who favoured him wore a broad crimson ribbon.

Monmouth professed himself a great admirer of Lyme, and expressed his determination in verse of increasing its importance. All the old people repeat these lines, which are presented without comment, or the slightest intention to libel the poetical genius of that unfortunate personage:—

Lyme, although a little place,
I think it wondrous pretty;
If 'tis my fate to wear the crown
I'll make of it a city.

"Friday the whole day was spent in listing of men, which flocked to us so fast that we could scarce tend them with arms."

What a busy scene did Lyme then present! Some departing to procure followers from the country—fresh groups arriving, bearing a few fire-arms that their fathers had perhaps used in the civil wars. The reign of terror had commenced. Among such a number of strange individuals many bad characters had found admission. The king's friends awaited their departure with anxiety, and deposited their money and valuables in the ground, or most secret places, for security.* His adherents behaved in many in-

* The large quantity of money and valuables, spoken of elsewhere, must have been deposited in the earth at this period.

stances with excessive tyranny and oppression, a strong proof of which is afforded by Mr. Matthew Bragg's case. He was of a good family, and bred to the law. Returning from a gentleman's house for whom he kept courts, he was met by a party of Monmouth's horse, then going to search a Roman Catholic's house for arms, at about two miles distance. They insisted upon his accompanying them to shew them the way, which he was unwilling to do, saying it was none of his business; but he was forced to proceed, and never dismounted while they entered the house. After refusing to engage in this design, his horse was seized for the duke's service, and himself eventually executed for having been seen in company with the party.*

The enlisting went on rapidly, fresh arrivals from a distance continually taking place.

"The like on Saturday also; and then, about ten of the clock at night, 300 men were sent to Bridport, about six English miles off, to storm that town betimes in the morning, which we did accordingly, taking many prisoners out of their lodgings; and had not our soldiers been a little too eager of plunder, we had made a good day's work on't; but there lying about a wood some of the king's forces, we were forced to retreat, losing three or four men and killing several of their's, and taking eight prisoners: this was the first action we had," and it too clearly discovered what might be expected from an undisciplined soldiery. Some resistance was made by a

* Martyrology.

small party in the town, when in the conflict Edward Coker and Wadham Strangeways, Esquires, were killed. The inhabitants were many of them favourably inclined to Monmouth's cause, but finding his followers did not respect their property as the king's troops had done, they joined the latter, in order to expel the marauders. Lord Grey, who was appointed to conduct this party, left it, and sought his own personal safety in Lyme. Monmouth, aware of this act of cowardice, was reminded by his attendants that no other general in Europe but himself would have hesitated to dismiss him.

The king received an account of Monmouth's landing, forwarded by the mayor, on the 13th. Measures were taken to prevent followers from other counties joining him; and some persons imprisoned for nonconformity, whose rescue might have been attempted, were removed to a distance. Troops marched from different parts to surround the vicinity of Lyme; and, as the journal acquaints us, a body of men, commanded by Lord Albemarle, were advancing to lay siege to it. Monmouth hastened his departure, for which every necessary preparation was making. His adherents being generally unprovided with horses, seized indiscriminately on any they could find. They took three belonging to a person of consequence, who had some land in the parish of Lyme. The steward made an application to the duke to get them restored, but could only obtain one, the others remaining with his party. This was afterwards construed into assisting the duke. After the defeat notice was taken of the circumstance, and the steward would have been exe-

ated had not four hundred pounds been forwarded to the judge at Dorchester.

In one of their excursions to procure horses a circumstance occurred which is differently spoken of by historians. David Stewart, Earl of Buchan, in his *Life of Fletcher of Saltoun*, observes that the mayor of Lyme was killed by that celebrated reformer. This statement is obviously incorrect, and had its rise from the following event:—Fletcher's party took a horse, the owner of which insisted upon its being immediately restored, which the other would not permit. A violent scuffle ensued, and in the sudden heat of passion, in consequence of contumelious language used towards him, he ran the owner through the body with his sword. Probably the mayor may have been present at the time. This unguarded, unsoldierly, and unjustifiable act of violence," as his biographer adds, "must have rendered his future services on the expedition of little consequence to Monmouth," whose service he quitted in disgust, after the duke was crowned, to visit Spain; and escaped that confusion, imprisonment, and proscription in which his partizans were soon after involved.

On quitting Lyme they freed the gentry from the restraint their presence imposed, and to which may be attributed, in a great measure, the little pity with which the subsequent executions appeared to inspire them.

The last day of their stay in Lyme, "Sunday, also was spent in listing, and Monday morning; but in the after-

noon we marched out of Lyme* for Axminster, a little town four miles off. Our party was near 2000 foot and 300 horse, though we landed not full an hundred men, and all these in the space of four days. About two miles from Lyme we espied the Duke of Albemarle, with about 4000 men, designing that night to quarter in the same town, which we had news of in the way; yet we marched on in good order, and came into the town, lined all hedges, planted our field-pieces, and expected nothing more than we should give 'em battle, they being not an English mile from the town. They made towards us as soon as they heard we were there; but the Duke of Albemarle, finding his men to be all militiamen of the county of Devonshire, and that they had no stomach to fight against Monmouth, retreated, when he came within a quarter of an English mile of the town. He came from Exon with these forces, intending to lay a siege against Lyme, presuming we could not be ready in so short a time; but finding us so well prepared to receive him, he wisely retired, his men being in great disorder and confusion, supposing we had pursued them, which was debated; but the duke said 'it was not his business to fight yet, till his men had been a little disciplined, but rather to make up into the country as fast as possible, to meet his friends, not questioning but there would have been, in several parts of the kingdom, some action, on the news of his success.' But this in the end proved fatal to us; for had we but followed them, we had had all their arms, several more men, and might have marched in two days, with

* At their departure some females scattered flowers before Monmouth.

little or no opposition, to the very gates of Exon, the country troops resolving not to fight against us, and several came to us that night with their arms. But missing this opportunity, we marched on for Taunton, lodging at several small towns by the way, which still received us as kindly as possible, and all the way met with the loud acclamations of the country, praying God to succeed our arms.

“ Thursday we came to Taunton, about twenty miles from Lyme. To give a particular account of our reception here would be too tedious: the streets thronged with people, we could scarce enter, all endeavouring to manifest their joy at his coming; and their houses, doors, and streets garnished with green boughs, herbs, and flowers—all the emblems of prosperity.

“ The next day twenty-six young gentlewomen, virgins, with colours ready made at the charge of the townsmen, presented them to his grace; the captain of them went before, with a naked sword in one hand and a small curious Bible in the other, which she presented, also making a short speech, at which the duke was extremely satisfied, and assured her, ‘ he came now into the field with a design to defend the truths contained therein, and to seal it with his blood, if there should be any occasion for it.’

“ Nothing now would content the country but he must be proclaimed king, which he seemed averse to, and really I am of opinion from his very heart. They said ‘ the reason why the gentry of England moved not was

because he came on a commonwealth principle.' This being the cry of all the army, he was forced to yield to it, and accordingly Saturday morning he was proclaimed. In the afternoon came out three proclamations: one setting a sum of money on the king's head, as he had done before on the other; the second, declaring the Parliament of England a seditious assembly, and if they did not separate before the 1st of June, to give power and authority to any that would attempt to lay hold of them as rebels and traitors; the third, to declare the Duke of Albemarle a traitor (who now lay within six miles of us, having had time to rally his men,) if he laid not down his arms. Forthwith a message was sent to command him; but he sent word, 'that he was subject to James II., the late king's brother, and that he knew no other lord.'

"We tarried here till Sunday morning, and then marched for Bridgewater, seven miles from thence. We were now between four and five thousand men, and had we not wanted arms could have made above ten thousand. We were received here as in other places, but did little more than read our declaration, which we did also in all other towns, the magistrates standing by in their gowns, and likewise our proclamation, and so marched forwards for Glastonbury. From Glastonbury designed for Bristol, three days' march from that place, designing to attack it. Accordingly we arrived at Canshum [Keynsham Bridge], a little town three English miles from Bristol, intending to enter next morning, the Duke of Beaufort being there with a garrison of about four thousand men. Being there lodged in the town, we were on a sudden alarmed with

the noise of the approach of the enemy. Being in no small confusion on this unexpected news, the duke sent one up to the tower, to see whether he could discover them marching; as soon as he came up he saw them at the very entrance into the town, fighting with our men. Here we had a small skirmish, our men being in the fields adjoining to the town refreshing themselves; but it lasted not long, for before he could bring word, they were fled, being not above sixty horsemen. They did us mischief, killed and wounded, above twenty men; whereas we killed none of their's, only took four prisoners and their horses, and wounded my Lord Newburgh, that it was thought mortal. They came hither thinking it had been their own forces; and had not our undisciplined fellows been a little too eager, and suffered them to come a little further on, they would have entered the town, and we must have had every man of them: their infantry was following, but on their return came not forward. These forces being so near, and Bristol being so well manned also, the duke was loth to pass the bridge for Bristol, though some gentlemen that came over with us, and were prosecuted upon the account of the former plot, being Bristol men, and knew the hearts of the townsmen, begged him heartily to proceed towards it, offering themselves to go in the head of them into the town by some private ways which they knew, assuring him they would make no resistance, but could not persuade him; which had we been possessors of, we could not have wanted money nor arms, the only things needful for us in that juncture, for had we but had arms, I am persuaded we had by this time (at the least) twenty thousand men; and it would

not then have been difficult for us to have marched to London, with the recruit of Bristol, the king not being able to make seven thousand men for the gaining of so many kingdoms; but God saw it not fit for us, and overruled our consultations to our own ruin, for this was in the top of our prosperity, and yet all the while not a gentleman more than went over with us came to our assistance. So we marched on to Bath. We lay before it in the afternoon, and sent in our trumpeter to demand the town, but they refused to give us entrance, having a strong garrison, it being a stout people and a strong place. Having no mind to spend time in laying sieges, we marched on that day to a little town called Philips-Norton, and there lay that night, being now Sunday the 26th of June.

“ Saturday morning, preparing for Froome, we were drawing out our baggage for our march, and on a sudden were alarmed by the appearance of the enemy, who had entered the town, and had lined all the hedges, and had begun to fire on us. Here he began the briskest encounter we had yet had, and for an hour or more a brisk skirmish; but at last we beat them back, killing about thirty, which lay in the place, and we lost about ten in all, and a few wounded. They retreating with their whole army, pitched within a mile of the town; and we went out also and pitched near them, but out of musquet shot, playing cannon one on another for some time: they killed of us but one man all the while, but with our's we did great execution, having the advantage of the ground; so at last they retreated, and I have been told lest some hun-

dreds of men in the battle, both killed and wounded. So we marched on for Froome, a town where we were as beloved as at Taunton, where we wanted for nothing but arms, which were by a stratagem taken from them a few days before our entrance. Here came the unexpected news of Argyle's being defeated, and likewise of the advance of the king's forces from London, with considerable baggage, and thirty field-pieces. On this news, together with our want of money and arms (not seeing which way to avoid these forces), we were at a stand, and not a little *non-plus'd*. 'Twas at last agreed on that we that came with the duke should get good horses that night, and so for Pool, a little sea-port town not far off, where we were to seize a ship, and set forth for Holland again, leaving our infantry to the mercy of the country.

“ This was much like that resolution of the Hollanders in the time of the civil war with Spain. Being, as we then were, in despair of making better terms, and not daring to enter Salisbury Plain, because their horse being so much better than our's, their men being disciplined, our's not, we could not face them in so plain and open a country, so that we retreated backward, in the mean time resolving to see what London would do, having a good opportunity offered there. The soldiers being called forth, and not two thousand men to be had for their defence if they had but attempted any thing, this disheartened our men, and several of them coming home to their own country, having felt by experience the hardships of war, withdrew from us.

“ We came well back again to Bridgewater, and were received with wonted love. We arrived here on Friday the 3d of July, and resolved here to fortify so as to hold our ground till we heard from London.

“ Saturday, in the afternoon, news was brought of the approach of the king's forces within a mile and half of the town, where they had encamped. The duke went up into the tower, and there took a view of them, and seeing them so careless, and their horse at some distance from the army, in a little town, the infantry being in Sedgemoore, he called a council on it, and it was concluded on that we should fall on them in the dead of the night. Accordingly, having a guide to conduct us on in a private way, we marched out at about eleven o'clock in the night, and about one fell on them in their tents. There was a ditch between us, and the guide promised to conduct 'em over an easy fordable place, but our men seeing the enemy just before them, ran furiously on and lost the guide, so that while they endeavoured to recover that place the enemy got on their legs, and put themselves in order, and now began as fierce a battle as perhaps ever was fought in England in so short a time. Our foot fought as well as ever foot fought, but not a horse came up; had our horse but assisted we must have beat them out of the field: but our horses would not stand at the noise of drums and guns, so that we lost two of our pieces of ordnance, and we had but four in all, and then but one more in the field. Our foot flung most of their shot over, so that their men for the most part were killed in the

rear, and that ran, but the first stood still; and had we done as much execution in the front as we did in the rear the day had been our own. But God would not have it: their time was not yet come. By this time their horses came up, and having six or eight hundred good disciplined men, well mounted and well armed, our's neither, our foot having shot away all their ammunition, and our baggage not being then in the field, they were forced to retreat, being all in confusion. Having no money left, and our party thus unexpectedly repulsed, the duke, seeing he could not hold it any longer, fled with my Lord Grey.*

“The duke's party was said to be about three thousand foot and a thousand horse. We had more, at least five thousand men and horse, but not well armed, yet in the field. 'Tis said we lost not above three hundred, and they foot; but after, when we were routed, in our retreat, lost a great many more, though they pursued not in some hours after. After the field was clear of the duke's men, the Earl of Feversham marched, with five hundred foot and a party of horse and dragoons, to Bridgewater, where he found the duke's forces that were left there fled and dispersed into several places; when his lordship, having left these men in the town under the command of Colonel

* Three detachments of horse had been sent to Minehead, in Somersetshire, to bring cannon to the army, at the very instant the duke engaged the king's forces, and did not return till after the battle. Being the most resolute men, their absence seriously affected the fate of that battle.

Kirke, and hearing that the Duke of Monmouth was fled with about fifty horse, the greatest number of the duke's men that were left together, he sent out divers parties in pursuit of him and others that fled the field, when, on the 7th of July, about five in the morning, some of the Lord Lumley's men seized the Lord Grey and another person near Holt Lodge, in Dorsetshire, four miles from the west of Ringwood; and the said Lord Lumley making further enquiry among the cotts, was informed, by one Anna Ferrant, that two men went over a hedge, proving to be the outbounds of many enclosures, some of which were overgrown with fern, others with pease and oats; but guards being set upon the avenues, after divers attempts to escape, the Brandenburg, one of the parties observed to enter the ground, was taken on the 8th of July, about five in the morning, who confessing he departed from the late Duke of Monmouth about one of the clock that morning in the outbounds, diligent search was made, when, about eleven of the clock the same morning, he was found, by one Henry Parking, hid in a ditch covered with fern, who calling others to assist him, the said late duke, together with the Lord Gray and the Brandenburg, with a strong guard, were brought by easy journies to Whitehall."

Thus suddenly terminated this ill-fated expedition. Independent of the decided superiority regular troops must necessarily exercise over undisciplined countrymen, Monmouth had to encounter superior numbers; his troops were indifferently armed; the nobility and gentry never

joined his standard, and without their assistance in and concurrence to promote such designs, it is imagined they can never be crowned with success. Wellwood observes, "if Monmouth's ill-fate had not placed a battalion of Dumbarton's regiment in his way, he had in all probability surprized the king's army in their camp, and perhaps at that single blow decided the fortune of England for once."

After the defeat, those who had favoured Monmouth in the smallest degree were involved in proscription. Some in the moment of terror fled their country and their household goods, seeking a refuge in other climes.

Impelled by a desire of revenge for injuries received from that party during their short stay at Lyme, the former sufferers laid constant informations against those connected with the expedition, and in consequence numbers were daily committed to prison. At this period, according to the opinion most generally adopted, Jones exercised his cruelty and oppression. The lower classes never to this day speak of him but with horror. Probably this individual permitted none of Monmouth's adherents to return to their families without causing their arrest.

The unfortunate Duke of Monmouth was taken from the Tower on the 15th of July, and, pursuant to a warrant signed for his execution, upon attainder of high treason, was delivered to the sheriffs of London and Middlesex, about ten in the morning, and conducted to the scaffold on Tower Hill, where his head being struck off by

the executioner was placed in a velvet coffin, in order to its interment.*

The Duke of Monmouth being lodged in his grave, James, despising that god-like privilege of the crown forgiveness, resolved to be revenged upon the people of the west for siding with his capital enemy. That moderation which would have fixed his power he disregarded, as though he wished to depopulate rather than to punish. The instruments of his barbarity were two of the most unprincipled and ferocious miscreants that ever disgraced the annals of English judicature. It will be scarcely necessary to add, that the callous Jeffereys and Kirke, accompanied by *his lambs*, are here alluded to. In consequence of the former being at Tunbridge the trials in the west were delayed for some time. He commenced his *campaign*, as James denominated these satanical proceedings, at Winchester, and arrived at Dorchester on the 3d of September, assisted in his special commission of Oyer and Terminer by four judges and a party of horse, of

* The sprightly Saint Foix printed at Amsterdam, 1762, a small pamphlet to prove that the Duke of Monmouth was the famous man with the iron mask. Mr. Hume having observed that the duke's party flattered themselves that somebody else was executed in his stead, the French writer asserts, with more confidence than authority, that one of his officers, taken after the battle, was his substitute; and that a great lady, having gained certain persons to open his coffin, after viewing his right arm, exclaimed, "Tis not he!" Some other vague reports, with the tradition of Provence, that the person confined at St. Marguerite was a Turkish prince, named *Macmouth*, a name easily corrupted for *Monmouth*, are the only authorities for this new system.—*Note to Hutchins's Dorset.*

which he became the general. To that town were conveyed all the unfortunate objects intended as lasting instances of his malignity. About eighty were speedily ordered for execution, and most of their quarters fixed in conspicuous places about the country, to the dread of spectators and annoyance of travellers. The most trifling circumstances were sufficient to excite the unnatural severity of that monster, who, with the greatest apparent good humour, determined punishments at which human nature recoils with horror. When John Bennett, of Lyme, was at the bar, some persons observed that he received alms of the parish; to which the judge in a facetious manner replied, "Do not trouble yourselves, I will ease the parish of that burden."

An instance of his severity to the female sex is recorded, which, for so trifling an offence, has scarcely ever been exceeded. Mrs. Brown, of Lyme, jokingly said to the officer of excise then at her house, "I will pay my excise to King Monmouth." This being sworn to before the judge, he sentenced her to be dragged from the bosom of her family, and publicly whipped in several market-towns—a punishment that was rigidly inflicted.

This monster appeared to triumph in brutality. One day, in conversation, he was told by an officer who had been engaged in hunting down the fugitives that he had killed a thousand of them. "Why," said Jeffereys (as if the other had not used the sword with proper effect), "I believe I have *hanged* as many myself." One poor

fellow suffered for having "spared Monmouth's horse three-penny-worth of hay."

A writer of that day, who witnessed the executions, breaks out in the following terms:—"Had those persons who suffered about Monmouth's business fallen into the hands of *cannibals*, some of them at least had 'scaped better than they did from Jeffereys. Those more tame and civil creatures would have spared the *old* and *withered*, though they devoured the young and tender. But no age, no sex, made any difference here; and as those who were just into the world, children of ten years old were refused pardon, so those who were half out of it would not be suffered to tumble into their graves entire, though, as Juvenal says of Priam, they had scarce blood enough left to tinge the knife of the sacrifices."

All the old people of Lyme speak confidently of Jeffereys having tried prisoners there: the prevailing opinion is, that during his stay he examined a few persons, and probably prescribed some punishment. Tradition assigns his visit to Jones (previously mentioned), who then resided at the Great House, which the superstitious say was troubled for many years afterwards. They say he still retains a fondness for his robes, in which, when the house was vacant for a few years, he constantly appeared, *wield-*ing a bloody bone in his right hand. Not having been seen latterly, he has probably crossed the Stygian lake, and aspires to honours in the court of Rhadamanthus.*

* It would be considered the height of incredulity to disbelieve the following stories, current among the lower orders at Lyme, on

From among the eighty persons sentenced to death at Dorchester twelve were destined to be executed at Lyme, on the very spot where they landed a short time previously, with the hope of placing their beloved duke on the throne. On the 12th of September the unfortunate captives were conveyed from the county gaol to the place of destination, attended by the tears and blessings of the afflicted multitude. The most interesting particulars connected with the executions are here cursorily detailed as they occurred to each individual, or more properly, to use the western term, *martyr*. Their names were as follow: Mr. William Hewling, Mr. Christopher Battiscomb, Colonel Holmes, Dr. Temple, Mr. Sampson Larke, Captain Madders, Mr. Josias Askew, Captain Kidd, Captain Matchett, Messrs. John Hays, Leonard Jackson, and Henry Watts.

which the aged dwell with unfeigned pleasure, as they think a strong proof is afforded by them of the Omnipotent's anger against Jones for his horrid persecutions of the martyrs:—

They say when Jones lay dead a tremendous noise was heard in the air, and all the atmosphere was illuminated; that the gable end of the house fell in, and the devil entered in propria persona and carried him away.

The next account ascertains, in a satisfactory manner, the place of his destination.

The master of a vessel sailing near the coast of Sicily saw something in a thick fog, which he hailed. Judge of his surprise when, on a nearer approach, he discovered myriads of devils. The leader of them answered his enquiries in a loud voice, like a naval commander, "Out of Lyme, bound for Mount Etna, with Jones!" Since that time Jones and the burning mountain are names generally inseparable.

Mr. WILLIAM HEWLING was the son of a great Turkey merchant, and is described as having been a young man of some acquirements. On finishing his education he went to Holland, from whence he returned with the duke as lieutenant of foot. He and his brother, who was executed at Taunton, engaged with the Duke of Monmouth, as their own words declared, for the English liberties and the Protestant religion. After the defeat of the duke's army they fled and put to sea, but were driven back again, and with great danger got on shore over dangerous rocks, to see the country filled with soldiers. No way of defence or escape remaining, and fearing lest they should be apprehended by the populace, they surrendered themselves prisoners to a neighbouring gentleman, and were sent to Exeter gaol on the 12th of July. While there they conciliated the affections of all by their engaging behaviour. The subject of this memoir was afterwards removed to Dorchester. As he passed through that town for Lyme, he excited the pity of an immense concourse of spectators, by his deportment at parting with his interesting and inconsolable sister, who applied to Jeffereys; and an intimate acquaintance of the Hewlings, a relation of the lord chief justice, from whose fortune he had formed expectations, protested that the continuance of their friendship depended entirely upon his using every endeavour to save them. Jeffereys repeatedly protested that he tried, but declared the king was inexorable.

Before the execution he prayed for three quarters of an hour with the greatest fervency. An officer who had called the prisoners devils while guarding them down, after-

wards said he was never so much affected as by his cheerful behaviour and earnest prayer; and that if the lord chief justice had been there he could not have suffered him to die. Although the body was brought from the Cobb without any notice being given, yet nearly two hundred people came to accompany it; "and several young women, of the best of the town, laid him in his grave in Lyme churchyard, the 13th of September, 1685."

CHARACTER:—He was of a very sweet and obliging temper; somewhat tall, his face fresh and lively as his spirits, being of an extraordinary vivacity and briskness of temper; and met his untimely end before he was twenty.*

* Mr. Kyffin, an eminent merchant of London, the maternal grandfather of this young man, was left to take care of him and his brother by the father. When Hannah Hewling, the sister, presented a petition to the king in behalf of her brothers she was introduced by Lord Churchill (afterwards Duke of Marlborough); and whilst she was waiting in the anti-chamber for admittance, his lordship assured her that she had his hearty wishes of success to her petition: "but, madam," added he, "I dare not flatter you with any such hopes, for the marble is as capable of feeling compassion as the king's heart." James afterwards felt, when in trouble he applied in a fawning manner to Mr. Kyffin, the grandfather, for his assistance in supporting a tottering crown. "Sire," said the affected old gentleman, "I am a very old man, and have withdrawn myself from all kinds of business for some years past, and am incapable of doing any service in such an affair to your majesty; besides, Sire," fixing his eyes stedfastly upon the king, while the tear of anguish trickled down his cheeks, he added, "the death of my grandsons gave a wound to my heart, which is still bleeding, and will never close but in the grave!" James was deeply struck by the manner, the free-

Mr. CHRISTOPHER BATTISCOMB* was another young gentleman of a good family, and very great hopes, and of a fair estate, which lay in Dorsetshire, between Dorchester and Lyme. He had studied sometime at the Temple, and having occasions in the country about the time of my Lord Russell's business, he was there seized, on suspicion of being concerned in it, and clapped into the county gaol at Dorchester, where he behaved himself with that winning sweetness, and shewed so much wit and innocent pleasantry of temper, as extremely obliged both all his keepers and fellow prisoners, and even persons of the best quality in that town. They knew how to value such a gentleman as Mr. Battiscomb, and made him such frequent visits in the prison, till the place itself was so far from being scandalous, that there was generally all the conversation, and where you might be sure to meet the best company in the town of both sexes. Mr. Battiscomb had the happiness not to be displeasing to the fair sex, who had as much pity and friendship for him as consisted with the rules of decency and virtue; and perhaps their respect for him did not always stop at friendship, though it still preserved the other bounds inviolable. He was at length almost unwillingly delivered from this sort of happy slavery.

dom, and the spirit of this unexpected rebuke. A total silence ensued, while the galled countenance of James seemed to shrink from the horrid remembrance.—*Beauties of England, from Noble 85.*

For the epitaph on his tomb-stone see *Church*.

* This memoir of Mr. Battiscomb is abridged from Pitt's Visit to the Places of Execution.

On the arrival of the duke he joined him, and served with valour. After the rout he fled with the rest, but was seized in a disguise, and brought to his old palace, the prison at Dorchester. He behaved himself there the second time in the same courteous obliging manner as he did at the first, though now he seemed more thoughtful and in earnest than before, as knowing nothing was to be expected but speedy death. At his trial, Jeffereys railed at him with so much earnestness and barbarity that he was observed almost to foam upon the bench. He was very angry with him because he was a lawyer, and could have been contented all such as he should be hanged up without any trial; and truly 'twas no great matter whether they had that formality or no. He was divers times sent for to the chamber of the lord chief justice, and promoted with offers of life by such indirect means, and he accordingly chose death rather than life, seeing it could not be purchased but by such unworthy means.

Several young ladies in the town, among which one is particularly mentioned, went to Jeffereys to beg his life, who railed at them at such a brutish rate as nothing with one spark of humanity would have been guilty of, and in a manner too uncivil to be mentioned.

CHARACTER:—All that knew or saw him must own Mr. Battiscomb was very much a gentleman. His body made a very handsome and creditable tenement for his mind, and it had been a pity it should have lived in any other. He was pretty tall, well made, I think inclining to black.

He was witty, brave, exactly honourable, pious, and virtuous; and if that character ever belonged to any man it did eminently to Mr. Battiscomb, "that he lived universally beloved, and died as generally lamented."

Colonel HOLMES, concerning whom little is now known, had the title of "brave" generally prefixed to his name. On the scaffold he addressed the spectators, to whom he related every particular of his connection with the duke's expedition, "in which it pleased God to frustrate his and other good men's expectations." He dwelt much on the little doubt he entertained that others would meet with better success. Beginning to speak on the duke's title, he was interrupted, and instantly began by prayer to prepare for his dissolution.

The traditional account respecting this person's speech near the Cobb-gate agrees very nearly with the description of the singular circumstances that caused it, detailed in a little publication of that period. The prisoners waited at an inn in the town till the gallows and attendants were prepared. The jailer speaking to Colonel Holmes to have his irons knocked off, he said, "Great men of state wear chains, and 'tis accounted for their honour," and expressed a wish they might continue on. "The sledge being in readiness they prepared to enter it; but, alas! who should draw such men to execution, though men were so bloody? The very beasts refused to draw them; and instead of going forward they went backwards, and could by no means be made to do it, which so enraged some persons, that they took the coach-

horses out of the coach, and placed them to the sledge, but presently the sledge broke in pieces. Then spoke this worthy good man: 'Pray, gentlemen,—you see all your strivings will not do to draw us to execution—I verily believe there is more in it than you are aware of;—pray read about the prophet that went out of God's way—the beast saw that he could not. Give us leave, and we will walk to the place.' "

He required assistance to mount the gallows, having lost one arm in the service.

Dr. TEMPLE met his death with the same resignation as his fellow-sufferers. In his speech he informed the spectators of his being a gentleman of Nottingham; that he was induced to accompany the duke as surgeon, with the sole intention of serving him in the West Indies, where he thought they were bound. On the faith of a dying man, he entreated them to believe he knew nothing whatever of the expedition being intended for Lyme, and that he was privately told of it two days after their departure from the Texel. On landing, the country was so surrounded by soldiers that he could not escape, while on the other hand, if the duke succeeded, he might raise his fortunes beyond his most sanguine expectations. Begging pardon of all he might ever have offended, he commenced a pious and fervent supplication.

Mr. SAMPSON LARKE was an old man, and had formerly been the minister of an Anabaptist congregation in Lyme. He served under the duke as captain of horse.

He had begun to speak, but was told he could not expect much time, as there was so much to be done; on which he suddenly concluded, saying, "I will now speak a few words to Him who I am sure will hear me," and commenced his prayer. Shortly after ascending the ladder he was turned off, to the great grief of the townsmen, who had a great respect for him, owing to the uprightness of his character. He left an aged wife to mourn his violent end.

Mr. JOSIAS ASKEW wrote some remarkably pious and affectionate letters previously to his execution. Captain KIDD, Captain MATCHETT, Messrs. JOHN HAYS, LEONARD JACKSON, and HENRY WATTS, persons of minor consequence, each spoke on the scaffold.

Captain MADDERS, the twelfth person who suffered at Lyme, was constable of Crewkerne, and procured horses for the gentlemen from Lyme who were proceeding to acquaint the king of Monmouth's landing; he afterwards joined the duke, and was taken soon after the defeat. Some friends, at his trial, represented to the judge what a good character he had always borne, and among other things urged in his behalf mentioned that he was a good Protestant. "O, then," said he, "I'll hold a wager with you he's a Presbyterian—I can smell them forty miles."

Of the inhabitants of Lyme who suffered in other places for being concerned with Monmouth there remain only the names of the following:—

JOHN BENNETT, executed at Bridport. His eldest son went to the judge and offered to die for his father, which act of filial affection was admired by all the county.

HENRY BODDY, who suffered at Bath, in his last speech said he was born at Lyme, and, being bred up a seaman; had served Charles II. in his wars with the Dutch and French. He justified the attempt, and his following the duke, by declaring he believed he was his lawful sovereign. In his last moments he was troubled with questions, put to him by the minister, touching his opinion of the doctrine of non-resistance.

JOHN HOLWAY suffered at Wareham. He was an inhabitant of Lyme, and appeared in arms when the duke landed, but deserted him on hearing the proclamation issued by the king, which offered a pardon to whoever would lay down their arms in four days. This he did on the fifth day, as was stated to the judge, who passed sentence on him immediately.

It is not certain whether any of those persons executed at Lyme were quartered. The old inhabitants say their parents used to point out several places where many were exhibited, to the terror and disgust of all classes: the situations they mention are Cox's lodging house, then a coach-house, and the corner of the Rooms, then the Cobb-gate. Jones is reported to have procured two heads of the massacred adherents of Monmouth for the purpose of placing them on pedestals in the garden, to have the satisfaction of beholding them in his morning walks. After

the Revolution in 1768, it is said, they were removed to make way for two stone balls.

It has been already observed that Monmouth resided during his stay in Lyme at the George Inn, where the room he slept in to this day remains, and is not unfrequently visited by the curious. An excellent carving in oak is preserved in Lyme, said to have ornamented the head of the bed in which he slept.

Monmouth was the favourite of the people: the aged now speak of him with extreme veneration, and pity for the dreadful end of the "martyrs." Many centuries will probably elapse before tradition will be silent at Lyme on the circumstances of this expedition, and the severe and indiscriminating severity with which his adherents were visited.

The following elegy on Monmouth, printed shortly after his death, was read with painful reflections by the people of the west, even by those who had opposed his enterprise, on which subsequently the evident bias of James towards Roman Catholicism had caused them to look with different sentiments: his followers began to receive from their former enemies the softened term of "misguided."*

* The arbitrary monarch, James, caused two medals to be struck on this occasion. On the first was his own head, *Aras ad sceptrum tuetur*. Reverse—Two headless trunks of Monmouth and Argyle, *Ambitio male suada ruit*.—Second medal: Obverse—Monmouth's head, without any inscription. Reverse—A young man falling in

Come, mortals, come, now set yourselves to weep,
 Is not your glorious Monmouth gone to sleep?
 Send us some tears, you Indians, from your shore,
 For its our grief that we can weep no more.
 We want some mourners from the utmost coast
 Of all the earth, that grief may not be lost.
 When Britain hath set down and mourn'd her fill
 She ought to send for other mourners still.
 Created things, come set yourselves to mourn,
 Since lovely Monmouth from the world is torn.
 Should you not mourn, and tell your children so,
 That ages hence may mourn and sorrow too,
 'Cause we have lost so great a good as this,
 Who was our flow'r, and mourning Europe's bliss?
 The sun did mourn the morning of that day,
 And with the clouds of darkness did array
 His glorious face, that mortals might not see
 His royal rays while they did murder thee.
 O, lovely Monmouth, glory of our land,
 Who for God's word did like a pillar stand,
 All things but devils seem'd then to weep,
 Nor could the earth almost in silence keep,
 Methought all joy would vanish from the earth,
 And pleasantness would stop with Monmouth's breath;
 Methought the sun might now be angry grown,
 And would no more on earth be seen or known;
 We feared the heavens now disturbed were,
 And for the earth would take no farther care.
 All good men grieved to see that fatal blow,
 Whilst floods of tears did from the heavens flow.
 But that black blow, instead of proving three,
 Like Russell's fate, five bloody strokes they see.

the attempt to climb a rock with three crowns on it, under which
 was the following truly ridiculous motto, *Superi risere*.

Could we but draw those blessed looks of his
As when we saw him walking hence to bliss,
When from the Tow'r he did the hill ascend,
Where troops of angels did his soul attend,
One would have thought, to see him in that throng,
That he to bliss already did belong.
His countenance all others did outshine,
And made his very foes to grief incline.
No sooner was his soul arrived in bliss,
Where he received a better crown for this,
But Phoebus and the earth began to shine,
And pleasant looks towards us to incline,
The clouds and tears were wiped from Heaven's face,
And glorious brightness did again take place.
Now, happy soul, we leave thee to thy rest,
To live in joys that cannot be expressed.

In 1688 a few troops landed at the Cobb, and speedily marched to join the Prince of Orange's forces near Exeter, whither they had arrived from Torbay. The prince received no reinforcements from Lyme: the townsmen, terrified at the barbarities that ensued on Monmouth's defeat, observed a strict neutrality.

The following year a violent shock of an earthquake was experienced, which is somewhere said to have nearly destroyed the town; though, be it remarked, no record exists that gives authenticity to the statement of such extensive demolition, and tradition is far from perpetuating the recollection of any fatal ravages in the town, but speaks of alarming convulsions of the earth to the westward, where considerable changes took place in the range of cliffs, and the ledges near the Cobb were sensibly affected. It

is said that a farmer, who lately quitted an estate between Lyme and Seaton, received a traditional account, handed down in the family from father to son, that one of his ancestors very narrowly escaped with his life, which was endangered by huge fragments of the cliff, which becoming detached rolled with immense violence into the plain, and killed several head of cattle which he was driving.

William III. granted a charter confirming former privileges.

It may prove interesting to the curious to remark, that the firing between the contending fleets off Cape La Hogue, 1692, when Lord Russell gained a complete victory over the French, was heard on the hills near Lyme.

An almost exclusive attention to the Newfoundland trade continued for many years to promote the prosperity of Lyme: it is not known when it declined.

The breaking out of the French war proved very detrimental to the interests of the town. The merchants carried on an extensive trade at Morlaix, where they had establishments in linens, &c. Being necessitated to remove, a great stagnation of commerce ensued, and the communication between that town and Lyme, which had been maintained, with partial interruptions, from Leland's time, and probably much earlier, never experienced a renewal. This must certainly be considered as partially contributive to the subsequent decay of the town; but it was the interruption of the trade that caused the mer-

chants to retire from Lyme, when they sought more favourable situations then rising into estimation. For many years the principal articles of importation were tobacco and West India produce, which, incredible as it may appear, were forwarded in large quantities, on pack-horses, twice a week, to Bristol. These animals were so tractable and sagacious, that one man could with facility direct a considerable number. The horses of the town, on being driven to the ships' side, received their load, and were conducted to the warehouse; after which they continued to run to and fro without a leader, and knew by the tide when their day's work was ended.

It is not easy to be determined what induced the Bristol merchants to receive goods from Lyme, or to ascertain the immediate causes of their desertion, which was not suddenly effected; but from the time the intercourse was discontinued we find the town gradually, though imperceptibly, declined. At the commencement of the eighteenth century a few families of eminence continued to be actively engaged in commerce: they lived in great style, and gave employment to many of the lower orders, who were principally engaged in lace-making and the manufacture of serges.

Our subject insensibly draws us to that period which numerous individuals now living in Lyme well remember, when the town appeared to be threatened with dissolution. About the year 1750 it was in a truly deplorable condition, and scarcely any idea can be formed of the general poverty and depression that every where prevailed.

Houses were of little value, and purchasers could scarce be procured on any terms. Every street was full of large high buildings that projected at each story, which had been the abode in the former century of rich families, but from the effects of time, and neglect of the poorer occupiers, were in a state of extreme decay. The population had dwindled to one thousand inhabitants, so that a great number of houses remained unoccupied, and were so neglected that it is an incontestible fact that no one could walk with safety in the streets during a high wind, which frequently blew down the most tottering buildings. The only ways out of the town were by narrow lanes, full of deep ruts; the streets, almost impassable for carriages, were the abode chiefly of very poor people, who earned a scanty subsistence by their several trades. There was no vehicle of any description; when a carriage chanced to pass it proved a great source of attraction. The shipping was inconsiderable—the tradesmen a homely class, who as often as they had occasion to visit London for a stock of goods walked in small parties, for mutual protection, with a bundle on their shoulders, and generally reached the metropolis in a week. So great an undertaking was it considered, that no one ever thought of departing without having previously made his will. As the old houses fell down, or having become dangerous were removed, poor people built themselves, with the materials, tenements of little value. That beautifully situated spot of ground above the walk was the site of some of the most wretched hovels. The old buildings were repaired in such an excessively clumsy manner as to entirely destroy

all vestiges of former proportion. The great house in Broad-street, and Mr. Burridge's in the Butter-market, were the only good houses remaining: Broad-street was inhabited by lace-makers, who worked at their doors in summer. That occupation, as it presented no obstacles to free conversation, has decidedly been a great promoter of those numerous traditions, which would of themselves fill a volume. Seated in the shade, or collected round the fire, they repeated the stories they had learned from their parents of valiant deeds performed by Lyme men in the "troublesome times," or rehearsed elegies on their darling Monmouth, who said, when he mounted the throne, Lyme should join Axminster and Charmouth; thus causing it to regain, or rather exceed, its former splendour, when, as the old people of 1750 say, it contained as many thousands as it did, at the period we allude to, hundreds. Stories of ghosts and apparitions were not wanting to heighten the interest of their discourse.

Some large houses sold for £70 or £90. The shops were so ill supplied, that, excepting at fairs, very few articles, not of ordinary consumption, could be procured. The old houses rapidly disappeared, and hovels succeeded in their places. No white bread was sold, and there was not a cart or waggon in the town. The labourers worked for four-pence per diem. The women in the manufacture of Lyme lace, which was made so high as four and five guineas per yard, and from its superior durability and elegance acquired great repute, and rivalled that of Brussels, took in work from Honiton and Colyton: they fabricated a splendid lace-dress for the late lamented Queen Char-

lotte, which gave great satisfaction at court. The starch-mills were vacated, and a lapidary rented them for several years. During a scarcity of corn in the vicinity, a report was current among the poorer classes that it had been all bought up for the manufacture of starch. A mob from the country entered Lyme, with an intention to destroy the mills, which was by timely precaution prevented.

May 31, 1759, the sea flowed three times in one hour.

Several large vessels have been wrecked near the town within the recollection of persons now living. One vessel from the West Indies went ashore near the eastern jetty, upon which the crew saved their lives: all the poor people contrived to lay by a stock of coffee and sugar.

We have concluded our description of Lyme as a commercial town, for after the year 1760 little trade was carried on; it lay for a certain time in a state of torpor, then revived under the metamorphosed appearance of a watering-place. During the summer months a few invalids occasionally came to enjoy the sea-air; but as machines were unknown, any one wishing to court the embraces of Neptune was obliged to undress on the beach: the accommodations in other respects were equally bad. Till after the construction of the turnpike-road from Charmouth, through Lyme, to Exeter, in 1758, strangers, in their journey to the westward, had no opportunity of viewing it. The innkeeper first procured a bathing-machine for

the accommodation of travellers, who were enabled to take a dip in a comfortable manner before proceeding on their journey. It is a curious fact, that he placed it at the mouth of the river, where it remained for several years. Housekeepers near the sea began to fit up two or three front rooms in a homely manner, which is the first indication at Lyme of the lodging-house system, now so generally pursued on the whole line of coast: they met with encouragement, others were procured, and it soon happened, as it is somewhere expressed, that the invalids who came in search of health "found the goddess propitious to their prayers, and returning to pay their vows, brought beauty and elegance in their train." An agreeable society was formed in the summer months. Some families professed themselves partial to Lyme; and a few gentlemen, animated by public spirit, caused the assembly-room to be erected, which, conducted on the most liberal plan of any in England, may be considered to have rescued the town from impending ruin. Before that time the respectable inhabitants and visitors occasionally met to dance in the alcove on the walk. Families of good fortune regularly came for the season, and many of the first visitors built houses near the sea, in spots which had till then been entirely neglected. In the course of a few years great changes took place: machines were procured, and placed near the gun-cliff,—afterwards in the situation they at present occupy. Houses were wholly appropriated to the use of strangers, though none of those pretty cottages which now grace the environs had been erected, and few buildings in the more elevated situations were in existence.

The Earl of Chatham was exceedingly partial to and often visited Lyme, where he resided at different houses, most frequently at the great house in Broad-street. His son, the celebrated William Pitt, was then a little boy. He one day entered the room with his elder brother, at a time the earl was speaking of his sons to a gentleman, whose attention he is said to have directed to the younger son, by emphatically remarking that he would "prove to be the Earl of Chatham."

The principal inns were the Three Cups and Lion: the former was the occasional residence of the celebrated Mr. Hollis; at the latter the Freemasons held a lodge. A ludicrous and rather unusual circumstance occurred at one of these meetings:—Two inquisitive young females, who nearly despaired of finding out the secrets of the Freemasons, determined upon secreting themselves in a large corner closet before the time of assembling, which they actually carried into execution, without being perceived, fully expecting, by the aid of observations they might make, that in future they should understand the nods, winks, and other peculiarities of that fraternity. Unconscious of intrusion, the ceremonies began, and were proceeding, when something irresistibly droll exciting the risible faculties of the young women, they burst into a loud fit of laughter, which caused them a rather uncere-
monious removal by the astonished assembly. From the circumstance of their never being very communicative on the subject, some persons with confidence affirm that they were sworn to secrecy.

In 1774 a contested election caused most lamentable confusion, and unanimity appeared for a time to have been banished.

Mr. Hollis caused a row of poor houses, at the top of Pound-street, to be removed.

For many years Bunter's Castle, a summer villa, near the site of the present Belmont, was the scene of festivities.

The cliffs eastward of the town have experienced great changes. The former road, or more properly lane, to Charmouth fell by degrees into the sea. On the Church Cliffs were many gardens, and a foot-path led to that pleasant village. An old woman, living in 1755, said she remembered, when an apprentice, milking her master's cows three fields farther towards the south than the land now extends behind the Cobb, which must have been nearly parallel with the pier-head at that time.

The month of April, 1786, is marked by the discovery of a large sum of money. The narrative here presented, collected from the most authentic sources, it is trusted will not prove entirely devoid of interest. An occurrence which falls under the observation of several hundred individuals must necessarily give rise to various, and often contradictory, statements, to avoid which recourse has been had to a pamphlet, which will be noticed in the sequel.

Immediately in front of Mr. Hallett's, the watchmaker, stood a large house, which went to decay, and fell down,

before a dispute concerning the right heir to the property was decided, and the site, covered with the ruins, remained some time without being converted to any use. A builder sunk a saw-pit by some circular stone steps, which once led to the cellar, but the noise proving a nuisance to the widow of General Worge, who resided opposite, it was ordered to be filled up. Accordingly a labourer, employed for that purpose, proceeded very early one morning in the month of April to throw in the surrounding rubbish. Mrs. Worge's lady's maid having some work that drew her to the window, observed him busily engaged in picking up something, with which he filled his pockets, and then departed, supporting them with both hands, as if he feared they would be unable to bear the weight of their contents. This circumstance forcibly arrested her attention. She immediately went to Mrs. Langford, who resided in the next house, and mentioned what she had just witnessed, observing that the man must have been engaged in carrying away money. Mrs. Langford was induced to direct her views to the saw-pit, where the man had been working unaccompanied by the servant, in hopes, if any money had been discovered, to collect a few scattered pieces. Nothing particular being observable, she returned to her door, when, seeing a pick-axe, she determined to proceed with it once more to the spot, where, striking the tool into the fresh earth, there came out the cover of a rotten box, which disclosed to her view a large collection of gold and silver coins, with some MSS. While filling her apron, the string of which broke with the weight, she had the presence of mind to tell a man who was regarding

her with attention that she was picking up a few chips to light her fire. Hastening to her husband, then in bed ill, who had recently lost his vessel, she deposited the rich contents of her apron, to his utter astonishment; and thinking she had secured the whole stock, her first care was to inform the neighbours of her good fortune.

Then commenced a general rush. Without waiting to hear further particulars, all ran to the saw-pit. The old and lame appeared to forget their infirmities, and hastened to the general scramble, which was not long retarded, for on their arrival more coins were found. Those who were in bed, awakened by the noise, hastily put on their clothes, in order to join the busy group. Enterprise increased with numbers: implements were speedily procured, with which they began to dig around the spot in every direction, when the most solid parts of the foundation were shortly overturned, and every corner examined. Mr. Domett became apprehensive for the safety of his house, to which near approaches were made by the mining assemblage, who had conducted themselves peaceably till the arrival of some soldiers, who were quartered in the town, when a general fray commenced. The constables called the commanding officer, whose presence was effectual in restoring order. Kelaway, the labourer, returned to find his treasures were discovered: in the fight he received a blow in the head, which felled him to the ground, and he was carried senseless to his house.—In presence of the gold and silver every thing besides was disregarded: not one of the MSS. was preserved, which has proved a cause of regret to many. The greatest part

of that day was spent in digging, towards the close of which numbers of the country people from Uplyme and the vicinity arrived. A person in reduced circumstances, who was present, wrote a poem on the subject, entitled "Antient Coins," from which these lines are extracted:

"Now in the streets and lanes, with dreadful fume,
Men, women, boys the matter do discuss
Whose was the wealth? by what king was it coined?
How old the dates? by whom it was purloined?
Some from their sides the massy pieces draw,
These old and black, and those without a flaw,
From Edward Sixth to Second Charlie's reign,
By date arranged, they from the pockets drain," &c.

The boxes containing the coins were made of handsome wood, lined with velvet; they were placed in the corner of the stone staircase, near the surface of the earth. There is no possible means of ascertaining the quantity or value of the money, some of which was black with age, but the crown pieces appeared to have never been in circulation. Mrs. Langford disposed of the gold and silver coins for £200, which enabled her husband to support the expenses of an action he brought against the commander of a revenue cruizer, for the illegal detention of his vessel. Kelaway's money was stolen from him. A female, with the produce of the scattered pieces only, redeemed a mortgage on her house. Many received from £10 to £40 each, others more. Some who were known to have secured large sums sedulously concealed the real amount, fearing a claim would be laid for a share by the lord of

the manor. The old people said a man lived on the spot who joined Monmouth, and fell at Sedgemoor.

At present there remains no inconsiderable quantity of the money in Lyme, either purchased or found by the possessors. Some estimate the total value of the coins so high as £2000, a greater sum than many will admit of, who think it could not have exceeded £1200.

Poor Kelaway, who was an honest farmer in reduced circumstances, found himself duped of his money. He continually dreamed of digging up treasures, and at length the "lady," whom we have elsewhere described, appeared to him. Having obtained permission to dig in Sherborne-lane, like the weaver in the popular tales of the Ettrick Shepherd, he commenced operations, and after excavating to the depth of ten feet, was compelled to desist by the proprietor of an adjoining garden-wall, at a time he was most sanguine in his expectations.

Strangers again, for the third time, directed their steps towards Lyme, though, we must remark, with different views to those of any preceding period. Some persons of independent fortune came to settle, being attracted by the beauty of the situation,—others in the capacity of tradesmen, mechanics, &c. By a census, taken in the year 1788, the population appears to have amounted to 1248 souls; a short time previously it was not more than 1000; in 1800 there were 1535, and in 1810—1925 inhabitants, which plainly indicates the rising disposition of Lyme.

In 1793 came into the Cobb, and was taken, a very singular fish of the following dimensions: Extreme length fourteen feet; breadth of the tail three feet; circumference six feet. It had long jaws, in neither of which were any teeth discoverable.

August 18th, 1797, the sea flowed three times in one hour, attended with lightning.

January 26th, 1799, the sea as above, about four o'clock *a. m.*

About the same date a seal is said to have ascended the beach, near the walk, but being disturbed returned to the water, and disappeared.

A truly distressing accident occurred August 19, 1800, which caused a great sensation at Lyme. Some equestrians performed in the Rack-field, and in consequence of an extraordinary display of vaulting on the preceding day the spectators were very numerous. The weather was intensely hot and sultry; the clouds seemed to indicate the approach of a thunder-storm, but did not deter the multitude from staying to witness the conclusion of the performance. At about a quarter to five in the afternoon a passing cloud discharged a heavy shower, which caused the assembly to effect a hasty retreat. Many betook themselves to the adjoining lincays, others went home, but the less prudent sought shelter under covert of some lofty elms that stood in the field. A vivid discharge of the electric fluid shortly ensued, followed by the most

awful clap of thunder that any present ever remembered. All appeared deafened with the crash : after a momentary pause a man gave the alarm, by pointing to a group that lay motionless under a tree. Some persons instantly ran to the spot, where there appeared three women and a child lying on the ground—the former were killed on the spot. The infant was not injured, but from that time, from a dull child, became very intelligent, and, as a fossil-hunter, was destined to bring to light some of the grandest relics of a primæval world that have been discovered in any age or country.

At a similar exhibition in the same field, about twelve years afterwards, it again happened to thunder. The remembrance of the former accident was not effaced from the minds of many then present, who retired from the ground in the greatest possible confusion.

A destructive fire broke out at Crossman's, a baker, near the George Inn, on the evening of the 5th of November, 1803, which was caused by the negligence of a servant, who went into the attics with a lighted candle for some dry furze, in order to sell it to a boy for a bonfire. Having by accident communicated the flame to that inflammable substance, she secretly went for water to extinguish it, without giving the alarm to her master. In a short time the flames broke out at the top of the house, and, impelled by a strong gale of wind from the southward, almost instantly set fire to the adjoining houses, which burnt with incredible rapidity. The gale was so violent that it carried the flakes of fire across to Mill

Green, which, as well as the cloth manufactory, was entirely destroyed. By great exertions the Independent chapel was preserved. Forty-two houses fell a sacrifice to the devouring element. Being chiefly tenanted by the lower orders great distress prevailed, to alleviate which a subscription was entered into, and a furnace was speedily erected in the church-porch, where the sufferers cooked their dinners for many weeks afterwards. This accident, as it caused the destruction of many close unhealthy houses, may be considered to have been attended with beneficial results.

The late Sir George Baker, during a residence, analyzed the sea-water, and particularly mentions that its specific gravity exceeded that of the same quantity to be found on any part of the coast, consequently that it contains a greater number of saline particles in a given measure than any other. From this and other circumstances Lyme has acquired considerable repute: the visits of the company have been constant, and surely they can nowhere pass the summer in a more pleasant or recreative manner. Large capitals have been lately applied to the fitting up of lodging-houses.

The Prince of Orange, during his stay in England, visited the west *incog.*, in company with two gentlemen, to view the spot where his ancestor landed, and Monmouth commenced his attempt upon the crown. Lyme was unusually full, so that Mr. Manning, who kept the Three Cups Inn, could only accommodate the strangers in a room just vacated by a party of gentlemen, after a

public dinner, while he went to procure beds in the town. By a singular coincidence the Prince could only have a bed at Mrs. Beere's, near the George, so that in the same street are now "Monmouth's" and the "Orange room."

In May, 1816, after having been observed at sea, came ashore a fish of the following dimensions, which was exhibited at the Cobb:—Length, 27 feet 4 inches; circumference, 11 feet 10 inches; dorsal fin, 4 feet 3 inches; pectoral fins, 4 feet 6 inches each; width, 3 feet 10 inches; spread of the tail, 8 feet 8 inches; mouth, round, 4 feet 5 inches; teeth, fifty. The blubber was made into oil, which did not prove good, from some mismanagement in the process.

Till the cessation of hostilities between this country and France a contractor resided at Lyme, who supplied the garrisons of Guernsey, Jersey, and Alderney with cattle. From the particular disposition of the Cobb, the vessels, of about seventy-five tons each, which carried guns to beat off the enemy's row-boats, were enabled to sail with every wind, and occasionally, when there was no means of getting out of other ports, conveyed a most seasonable relief. The voyage in winter was perilous: many were taken, wrecked, and entirely lost. This trade only exists in time of war.

The annals of a watering-place are not, generally speaking, of an interesting character. Without dwelling on the subject, after mentioning that within the last twelve years numerous genteel families have made Lyme their

place of residence, and that the whole of the cottages in the environs have been erected, we shall proceed to describe the actual state of the town.

The resident population amounts to 2261 souls, of which 948 are males, and 1313 females, being exactly 365 more females than of the other sex. There are a considerable number of large high houses, which being in many instances situated adjoining smaller buildings, give the town a picturesque appearance. It is supported by the resident gentry, summer visitors, and by the employment given to the poorer classes by an extensive cloth manufactory, carried on under the firm of Stanton, England, and Glyde. The London Constant Trading Company, consisting of five new vessels, of about eighty tons burden, has been recently established. This incontestibly proves a great accommodation, as well as advantage, to the town and neighbourhood. One vessel sails every fortnight from Carpenter and Smith's wharf, Battle-bridge, London. There are many fine sea-built vessels that sail out of Lyme in the Irish trade, from that country to London; others in the coal and culm trades. Cargoes of American and Norway timber are continually imported by Mr. Drayton. The Lim, though so very inconsiderable a stream, is rendered highly beneficial: within a mile of the sea it turns the wheels of three cloth manufactories, two grist mills, one oil and a fulling mill.

The original names of the streets do not appear to be satisfactorily known. Coomb-street received its name at a period of remote antiquity. Silver-street, at the west-

ern extremity of the town, is of frequent occurrence in the vicinity of Roman stations, thought to be a corruption of *Via ad Silvres*. Pound-street is now erroneously styled St. Michael's street. St. Nicholas's street, ever since 1685, has been called Monmouth's street. Broad-street has long received that name. The Butter-market, between the church and the gun-cliff, was used for the public sale of that commodity till within the last fifty years. Cockmoile-street is near the gaol. Lynch was the property of a great merchant about five hundred years since. Sherborne-lane and Church-street may be referred to a very early period. Cobb-street is only known by tradition.

Notwithstanding the number of well-built houses that have been erected in different parts of the town and immediate vicinity, it is often incapable of containing all the company that resort to it during the season. Every thing conducive to comfort and ease may be procured. Provisions are not only moderate but reasonable, and supplies necessary to an establishment may be supplied from two markets in the week, and from the country people, who call every day at the doors with poultry, eggs, &c.

Few towns centre in themselves so many different inducements to visit them as Lyme. Viewed as a watering-place, it offers the fairest prospect of restored health and spirits to the invalid, and a round of visiting and good company to all whose constitution and fortune permit an indulgence in them. It promises active employment to the fossilizer and geologist; while the literary character

will find ample means for intellectual improvement or gratification. The Assembly Rooms are not conducted so as speedily to enrich the proprietors at the expence of the public, which on a perusal of the terms in the sequel, will be evident. The regulations are essentially contributive to the gratification and ease of the company, who, at a comparatively trifling expence, enjoy the advantage of good society, and have access to the principal daily papers.

Several vessels engaged in the trawle fishery supply the town with a profusion of the finest fish. The gardens produce in abundance fruit and vegetables, which are not sold at extravagant prices.

Lyme contains many excellent shops in the various lines of business, provided with large and extensive assortments of goods; and *fesensees de modes*, who early procure the newest fashions.

At the short distance of two miles is the Char, in which are taken trout of fine flavour; the river Axe affords excellent diversion to the lovers of fly-fishing. During the sporting season packs of harriers turn off twice a week in the vicinity.

To invalids a residence at Lyme is rendered highly favourable: the bathing is rarely prevented by the prevalence of strong westerly winds, which prove such impediments in situations exposed to that quarter, owing to the shelter afforded by the Cobb. Pleasure-boats, of dif-

ferent descriptions, are kept for hire. Aquatic excursions to the several cliffs are both frequent and agreeable. The boatmen charge by the hour or day, with settled prices for landing at the different cliffs or adjacent towns.

The walks in the immediate vicinity are truly beautiful and picturesque: the higher situations enjoy an unequalled extent of sea and land view.

A ramble on the shore in search of fossils unites both exercise and recreation. Though the uninitiated can seldom meet with success in quest of the grander specimens, yet any person at all acquainted with the beach may easily find *Cornua Ammonis*, *Stella Marina*, &c.

Coal sells at a reasonable price, seldom exceeding two shillings the double bushel.

A packet sails regularly every week to Guernsey, from which island a ready conveyance may be procured to any port in France. Pic-nic parties in the cliffs are of frequent occurrence during the summer. Ford Abbey proves a great source of attraction.

There are three circulating libraries, which collectively contain a vast number of books in the various departments of literature. Sedan and other chairs are always to be found near the Rooms. Mr. Webster, the instructing lecturer, analyzed the water which supplies the town, and pronounced it to be excellent.

Gentlemen who have been abroad say Lyme has greatly the appearance at a distance of a Turkish town, from the intervention of trees and gardens, and irregularity of the houses. It is observable, that this resemblance will not be at all diminished on entering to meet the groups of *Grecian* beauties, when a pleasing reflection offers itself to find they are not captives, but *captors*.

The Hotel furnishes good accommodations: the horses are inured to the hills. Hiscott's Boarding-House is a pleasant situation, in the principal street, and a fine view of the sea is obtained from every part of it: it has been established some years, and is uniformly well attended.

The winters are exceedingly mild: snow lies on the ground but a day or two, and invalids feel less the rigours of that season than is generally experienced in other situations. An ague was never known to begin in Lyme; and it would be very difficult to find a frog in the parish, such is the absence of all stagnant waters, or unhealthy vapours.

A convenience attending a stay there is the facility with which visitors are accommodated with saddle-horses and donkeys, as well as donkey chairs and one-horse cars, if they do not come provided for exercise of that description.

Lyme is continually receiving additions by families, who, coming at first as summer visitors, settle, and be-

come constant residents. The impartial writer of the "Guide to the Watering-Places" speaks of Lyme in the following high terms of approbation:—"Lyme, upon the whole, may perhaps be regarded, when compared with other sea-bathing places, as one of the most eligible and best adapted for answering the various purposes for which it has long been the rage, to make annual excursions to the coast;" and concludes by an allusion to the purity of the sea-water.

As soon as the season at Bath is over, of which Lyme has been humorously considered as a safety-valve, the company who have houses in Lyme return from their brumal migration, when gaiety soon commences, and continues without intermission till the end of autumn. It is scarcely necessary to remark, that the various itinerant performers who visit, and often enliven watering-places in the season, do not omit to exhibit at Lyme.

To conclude,—the variety of the amusements, the beauty and salubrity of its romantic situation, and moderate charges, all conspire to render Lyme a most agreeable residence. The town improves upon acquaintance, and only requires to be once visited to convey an idea of the recreative mode of life that accompanies a summer, and the sociability of a winter residence.

THE ASSEMBLY-ROOMS.

The "Rooms," a term generally applied to this establishment for the sake of brevity, are situated in front of the Hotel. To their erection have justly been attributed the revival and popularity Lyme has acquired, which is stated in the historical sketch to have taken place in 1777,—a memorable era in the annals of fashion,—when the property consisted of twelve shares. The direction of the Rooms has been entrusted to several individuals, one of whom retained the management nearly forty years. Material alterations and improvements have been effected of late years, and several offices further tend to the accommodation of subscribers, who have access to the Ball-Room, Card and Billiard Rooms. The general appearance of the first, which is of large dimensions, containing three chandeliers and neat orchestra, is on particular nights usually heightened by the addition of ornamental decorations. In the card-room, a capacious apartment, are several daily and most of the country newspapers; over it is the billiard-room.

The Rooms remain open the whole of the year. The public nights are Tuesdays and Thursdays; during the season the regular weekly ball takes place on Tuesdays. No *arbiter elegantiarum* has ever been chosen, but his place is supplied by stewards appointed for the night, who superintend the dancing, introduction of partners, regulations, &c. The following terms of subscription are derived from the printed regulations:—

“ Subscriptions, 15s. 6d.

“ Subscribers to pay for balls 2s., for card assemblies 1s.; on other nights, for tea and coffee 6d., for cards 6d.

“ Non-subscribers to pay for balls 4s., for card assemblies 2s.; on other nights, for tea and coffee 1s., for cards 1s.

“ Each player of backgammon or chess in the evening to pay 6d.

“ A ball on the 18th of June, and a Christmas ball on the last day of the year; also to commemorate his present Majesty's accession and birth-day.

“ Tea and coffee, on card assembly nights, at seven o'clock; the card and other tables to break up before eleven o'clock.

“ On ball-nights, tea and coffee for the card-players at seven o'clock, in the card-room.

“ The music will be ready at eight o'clock.

“ Tea in the ball-room for dancers after the first set.

“ Subscribers can engage the Rooms for parties.”

The other regulations are nearly similar in their nature to those of other establishments.

The music is very good, consisting of three violins, with a violoncello, and additional assistance on particular nights.

The manager's benefit, in August, is not unfrequently attended by two hundred fashionables.

The superiority over similar establishments, and social intercourse at the Rooms, are universally allowed by visitors. The writer of the "Guide to the Watering-Places" has observed, "that as happy countenances are to be met there as at the Bath Rooms." Any person acquainted with the manner in which they are conducted will not disallow the justice of his remark.

PUBLIC OFFICES AND BUILDINGS.

The *Custom-House*, situated nearly opposite the Rooms, has been erected many years. The entrance is by steps, leading from the Market under it. The principal room occupies nearly the whole of the front part of the building. The King's Arms appear over those of the town.

The *Guildhall*, near Jefferd's Baths, contains two very commodious rooms: in one the magistrates assemble every Monday for the administration of justice, turnpike meetings are held, &c.; the other is applied to the jury at the sessions, and is the council chamber.

The *Gaol*, adjoining the Guildhall, has long since re-

ceived the singular name of Cokenwhile, and is somewhere spelt Cockmoile, ingeniously considered to be a corruption of *incog-a-while*,—a term applied to it probably by some wag at its first erection. It however refers to the former custom, when it was a house of Correction, of working from cock-crowing to sun-set, *moile* meaning labour.

The former *Market-House*, having been removed about the year 1750, the present building was erected in its place.

The *Post-Office* is in Coomb-street. The letters must be in the box before eleven *a. m.*, as the bags are then forwarded. The delivery of letters takes place about four o'clock in the afternoon.

All the principal Fire and Life Insurance Companies have agents in Lyme.

Banking business is transacted by Mr. Edwards, an agent for the Bridport Bank.

BATHS AND BATHING-MACHINES.

There are three different establishments, where may be procured at any time the luxury of warm bathing, at the usual charges.

Jefferd's Baths were erected in 1805, at an enormous expence, by Mr. Giles Davie, whose name they long re—

tained, and were conducted in a manner that ensured encouragement. A daily paper was taken in, and the reading-room was well attended; but some walls near the baths giving way in a storm, the walks were sensibly affected, and the building itself appeared to be endangered. After the proprietor's death they remained in a ruinous condition till purchased by Mr. Jefferd, who had fitted up in a handsome manner the different apartments for the hot, cold, and shower baths,

Bennett's Baths, near the fossil shop, have been recently fitted up in a neat manner, and are conducted with strict regard to attention and regularity.

England's Baths, at the Cobb, furnish the greatest acquisition to the lodging-houses there, and are fitted up with every attention to comfort.

The Bathing-Machines are placed at the end of the Marine Walk, between the Rooms and the Cobb, where they at the same time enjoy the advantages of an excellent situation, a smooth bottom of sand, and a distance from fresh water. Six machines are the usual number, which are drawn in by a horse, the descent being almost imperceptible. The guides are careful and attentive. When first in use the machines belonged to several proprietors: Mr. J. England exclusively conducts them at present, in a manner that gives general satisfaction.

WALKS.

The walks about the town are extremely beautiful in every direction, and the varied scenes, produced by the romantic situation of the environs, inexhaustible. The sea-view, from the contiguity of the Cobb, and different positions of the vessels, is always changing. The cliffs take a different hue at every alteration of the weather,—a summer shower is sufficient to paint a fresh tint on the blue lias that constitutes the greater part of them, while the smallest cloud that interrupts the rays of the “bright orb” equally affects the appearance of the white and yellow.

The visitor may here enjoy the busy scene on the Walk fronting the Rooms, and in five minutes convey himself to the delightful scenery near Middle Mill, where the sylvan accompaniments of woods and copses, with a rookery, heighten the beauty of the situation.

The *Walk*, a name by which the charming promenade between the Cobb and the Rooms is known, is always kept neatly gravelled. Not being on the beach, but on a terrace immediately adjoining, it commands extensive views. Formerly the higher part of the beach was levelled for the convenience of walking, but about twelve years since a subscription was entered into for the purpose of defraying the expences of a wall from the Rooms to the Cobb-houses. The money, £2500, was subscribed, and the wall erected, but, by a great want of foresight, too near the sea, which in the ensuing winter destroyed a

great part of it. Since that time a terrace has been built inside the old work, which is perfectly out of the reach of storms. Some seats are placed for the accommodation of the company, and there was till of late years an alcove, which we have shown to have been the scene of festivities on summer evenings before the erection of the Rooms: being found a nuisance, it has been closed.

The Church Cliffs and Stile Walks are both elevated to some height from the level of the beach. On a clear day the town of Chesil, in the island of Portland, is visible, as is also Wyke church, in the immediate vicinity of Weymouth, which appears above that stupendous collection of pebbles, named the Chesil Bank, extending from Portland to Burton, on which the *Alexander East* Indiaman was lost.

Middle Mill Fields.—This walk is greatly frequented. It consists of a range of fields extending from the back of the town to Middle Mill, about half a mile up the valley, where the scenery is truly picturesque. A thick wood and rookery adjoin the ruins of the old Colway House, famous for having been, with Hay Farm opposite, the head-quarters of Prince Maurice. From this spot the visitor may continue his ramble in many directions.

Ware Cliffs are a short distance west of the town. Chimney Rock (which takes its name from a near resemblance to a house with a chimney on it) appears to the right, projecting from the cliff, and is covered with ivy and misletoe of the most luxuriant growth. Parties, in

with a bold perpendicularity, and are the building places for thousands of daws, who are frequently disturbed by the hilarity of the pic-nic parties.

A deviation from the path, in order to attain different points of view, exposes one to inequalities of a fatiguing character, but every step is on romantic ground—new embellishments, features, and combinations, continually rise into view, causing a rapture that almost renders one insensible to fatigue. A party of soldiers, quartered at Stedcombe House, in 1644, engaged a body of Prince Maurice's forces in those cliffs, and forced their way into Lyme without much loss.

RIDES AND DRIVES.

The nature of the country has not been very favourable to this department, but expence has been recently liberally applied to produce agreeable drives. The roads have been broken up, and relaid on the improved plan of Mr. M'Adam, and the streets have received great improvement by the removal of the pitching. Some plans are in agitation, which, if carried into effect, will be highly beneficial.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

The *Alms-Houses*, in Church-street, were given by Thomas Tudbold, Esq., a merchant of the town, in 1548, for the reception of poor families.

The *Free School* provides instruction for twelve poor boys, who are taught the useful acquirements of reading, writing, and arithmetic. The master is paid by the corporation out of the proceeds of an estate.

The names of donors and sums of money given to the poor of Lyme may be seen on a board in the church. An estate was purchased, the proceeds of which are applied to the binding out of apprentices and relief of the poor. The respective Sunday Schools are supported in the usual manner, by subscription.

In addition to the number of truly benevolent persons provided with the means of doing good, who at all times liberally contribute to the alleviation of distress, or miseries attendant on the sick bed of the poor, Lyme enjoys the advantages of the following excellent charities :—

The *Lyme Society*, established eight years since, has for its object to provide poor women and children with articles of clothing. The subscriptions and donations are expended in the purchase of materials, which are made up into garments by ladies, who assemble once a month, and work in company, or take a small portion to their homes. A subscriber receives a certain number of “*Recommends*,” which are distributed to deserving objects, who, on presenting them to the committee, state what article of clothing they most want ; a day is then appointed on which they assemble, when, on repeating a portion of scripture, and paying one third of the value, they receive the garment.

The *Benevolent Society* next claims our attention. The objects of this charity are the sick poor, who are often known to linger on in disease, or debility incident to it, from not having it in their power to procure the necessaries essential to the re-establishment of their health. The funds of this admirable institution are supported by many individuals. The person deputed to visit the sick purchases whatever the medical practitioner thinks most immediately serviceable.

The *Dorcas Society* is under the direction of a committee of ladies, who provide poor married women with child-bed linen.

SITUATIONS OF THE FORMER FORTS POINTED OUT.

But a few years have elapsed since the forts near the sea have been converted into pleasant platforms, which retain not the slightest vestige of the use to which they were once applied. The time of their first erection is not apparent; it is, however, reasonable to suppose that some works for the defence of the town existed at an early period.

The *Fort*, contiguous to the first jetty, constitutes a portion of the public Walk, which formerly terminated there; out of it were steps leading to the beach. Five guns commanded the entrance of the Cobb.

Bell Cliff, as it is now termed, was also a small fort,

containing a large bell, used to call men to their posts. A stone parapet and pavement have been supplanted by rails and pitching.

The Eastern Fort, or Gun Cliff, is the third battery by the sea, which washes the base of it, and is in an elevated situation. It remains in its former state, if we except the ports being blocked up. Three guns were mounted there.

These three batteries were considered a sufficient defence for the town when an enemy was only experienced in a foreign foe; but others were erected at the commencement of the civil wars to secure the entrance of the town, and some to annoy the besieging forces in 1644.

Davey's Fort, in the Church Cliffs, spoken of in the narrative of the siege as "the stay of all," was situated near East Cliff Cottage. Not far distant was

Newell's Fort, which guarded the entrance of the town.

Gaytch's Fort, called also the *Middle Fort*, from its central situation was very effective. Exact situation unknown.

The *Western Fort*, in which Captain Marsh met his death, guarded the entrance of the town in that direction. The situation of this fort is pointed out in a small orchard below the present road, at the end of Silver-street.

The besiegers constructed works in situations most favourable to the demolition of the townsmen's forts. Their western battery, which proved instrumental in the demolition of many houses, was situated in the former Bowling Green.

The great depth of the bay, and consequent risk attending an entrance, were considered complete safeguards to the town during the late war. Some of the guns were conveyed to Portsmouth, others were removed to the Cobb, where they became serviceable as moorings, &c. At the time of the threatened invasion a company of volunteers from the vessels, armed with long pikes, exercised every week.

Colway, or, as it appears in some Feodaries of Glaston, Lym, and *Colbeigh juxta Lym*, distant half a mile from the town, was formerly a manor, but is now only a farm. It gelded to the king's service for three hides, and was parcel of the inheritance of Alured de Nichole, held of the Abbot of Glaston by knight's service; afterwards Robert Fitz-Pain held it in like manner, as purparty of his inheritance. The other tenants in demesne held immediately of him. 9 Edward III., John Bleyon had a charter of free-warren there. 20 Edward III., Walter de Carmino held half a fee in Colweigh. 10 Richard II., Ralph de Carmino held the manor. 9 and 14 Henry IV., and 4 Henry VI., the Bonviles of Chuton were connected with Colway. 21 Henry VI., Thomas Carmino, Esq. held the manor of the Duke of York; Margaret, wife of Hugh

Courtney, Esq., Joan, wife of Thomas, son of Richard Carew, Knt., his daughters and heirs. Since that time it has become the property of the Henley family, who lived there in great style for many years. The house was large, and a road between two rows of stately trees, which have been long since cut down, led to the church, to which some affirm there is now a subterraneous passage. The house is gone to decay,—some of the ruins are visible at the back of the present farm-house. No courts are held, nor any symbols of a manor preserved. Henry Host Henley, Esq. is the present possessor. It is a tything, in the hundred of Whitchurch Canonicorum.

CHURCH LANDS.

The Abbots of Sherborne, Glastonbury, and Abbotsbury held lands in Lyme 1293: those belonging to the two former were valued at two marks, of the latter at 4s. each.* In the 36th Henry VIII. a burgage and garden, belonging to the Abbey of Ford, and another belonging to Newenham Abbey, were granted to Richard Bowle; another, of the Abbey of Dore ac. Hereford, was granted to John Pope; also lands in the parish of Lyme Abbots, alias Sherborne Holme, parcel of Sherborne Abbey, value £3. 16s., were granted to Thomas Goodwin, who had license to alienate to John Hassard and heirs. 1 Elizabeth, John Hassard held four messuages in Lyme Abbots. 3 Edward VI., a tenement given for the maintenance of

* Tax. Temp.

a priest in the church was granted to Sir Michael Stanhope and John Bellow.

THE PREBEND, OR RECTORY.

In 1291 the prebend, with the chapel of Halstock, was valued at twenty-five marks. It is a peculiar of Sarum, and, in conjunction with Halstock, denominates one of the prebends of the cathedral—a vestige of the jurisdiction of that flourishing see, to which this county was subject for so many ages. In Bishop Osmond's Register is a record of the Archdeacon of Dorset's resignation of his jurisdiction in the churches of Lyme and Halstock, in Latin, without any date, supposed to have been about 33 Henry VIII.

THE VICARAGE.

The patron is the prebendary, and sometimes the lessee tenants. It is a discharged living, the real value £45. In 1291 it was at 100s. The Ellesdons, from 1564, were for many years patrons of the living. The return to the commission, 1650, was, that Amos Short was vicar; the impropriation belonged to Mr. Richard Alford, merchant. During the episcopal power the vicarage, consisting of agistments and tithes of every description, excepting corn, was worth £50 per annum.* The vicarage-house, near the church, has been let down.

* Dean Chandler observes that the tithe of fish belongs to the prebend, but the tithe of salt fish to the vicar.

THE CHURCH

Is a large, light, airy building, standing on an eminence, in the east part of the town; and though it possesses no claims to an imposing exterior, yet the propriety of its interior disposition is generally admired,

Before proceeding with a description of the structure it has appeared preferable to prefix a brief notice of its early history. It was first a chauntry chapel. Churches near the sea were erected for the convenience of fishermen going to prayers; who, during what has been termed the age of superstition, never put to sea without first offering up their *Ave-Marias* at the altar of their patron saint,

Nothing worthy of notice occurs in the history of the church till after the conquest, when Popes Eugenius and Alexander, by their bulls, confirmed the previous grants made of it to the Bishop of Sherborne.

In the reign of Edward I., when the town received its liberties, the church was re-erected on a large scale. The Bishop of Sarum, under whose jurisdiction it then was, in 1206, *id Dec.*, by a letter to the locum tenens of the dean, informs him, that the prebendal church of Lyme, and others, not named, in the archdeaconry of Dorset, lately built, were not consecrated. He ordered this ceremony to be performed, pursuant to a constitution of Otho and Ottobon.* It is highly probable that it was rebuilt

* Reg. Gaunt.

1405, when it appears, by Dean Chandler's Register, to have been dedicated to Saint Michael the Archangel, who had an altar in it, and one aisle to the Virgin Mary. In 1503 it was greatly in want of repair, and a legacy was left to rebuild part of it. The commissioners who visited it, 1550, reported that there were but two bells in the tower.

The church, as originally constructed, having become inadequate to the accommodation of the increased number of inhabitants, it was found necessary to lengthen, and otherwise enlarge it. The alterations and improvements effected about the year 1600 have caused a pretty general supposition of the church being built at that time, but the greater part of it is evidently the erection of a prior date. A tradition exists that the present porch formed the whole extent of the original fabric; indeed some recent repairs place it beyond all doubt that it constituted a portion of that structure. It is not improbable that previous to these alterations a spire existed. Stevens, in his Supplement to Dugdale's Monasticon, observes, that churches dedicated to Saint Michael were either built on elevated situations, or characterized by a lofty spire: the present tower is bulky and low. During the siege three of the largest bells were cast into cannon; 1770, a new ring of bells was erected. The whitewash conceals from view some remains of fresco designs over the arches.

The church, in its present state, consists of a body, chancel, and two aisles, extending from the tower to part

of the chancel, which projects beyond them. In the body are five arches, and four windows on each side; the latter are large, and full of tracery. Both the aisles, as well as the tower, are embattled on the outside. At the entrance of the body there is an ascent of six steps, and at the upper end of the body five, which have the appearance of having been the ascent to an altar. The body and chancel are covered with tile, the aisles with lead. The tower, and the whole of the exterior, are covered with stucco and gravel, for its durability, and quality of resisting the effects of the weather. The usual entrance is by the west door, through the porch, a large stone building, where the fire-engines are kept, over which is the vestry, now used, by permission of the vicar, for a free-school room,—dated 1720.

The top of the steps is an advantageous situation for viewing the church.

The most prominent feature is the pulpit, of curious construction and elegant workmanship, which stands on the right side of the middle aisle: it appears, from the following inscription, to have been the gift of a merchant:—

To God and Glory. Richard Harvey, of London, Mercer and
Marchant Adventvrer, 1613. Faith is by hearing.*

The gallery over the entrance is of the same design.

* The pulpit at Whitchurch Canonicerum is similar.

Some oddly shaped letters commemorate the gift of it to the church:—

John Hassard bvilt this to the Glorie of Almightye God, in the
eightieth year of his age, Ano Domini 1611.*

The front seat of the corporation pews is carved in a similar manner, and on particular days the maces are placed there.

The interior of the church displays some neat mural ornaments of recent erection. The aisles are covered with numerous tombstones, which record the deaths, and are engraven with the arms, of many of the oldest families of the town.

Near the chancel is a brass plate, let into the stone, which commemorates the deaths and virtues of several males of the old family of Ellesdon:—

Here lyeth bvried the body of Ralph Ellesdon of Lyme Regis;
also here lyeth bvried the body of Thomas son of the sayd Ralph;
also here lyeth bvried the body of Anthony, son of the sayd William,
which sayd Anthony deceased the 12th day of September 1655.

Men piovs, jvst and wise, each many a yere
The helme of this towne's government did steere
Beyond base envious reach, whose endless name
Lives in all those who emvlate their fame.

On a yellow stone in the left aisle are the few remain-

* On the south side of the gallery the death of this individual is recorded:—"John Hassard seven times maior decessed the seventh day of November 1612."

ing letters of a curious epitaph, which, from the circumstance of the words " Brave youth," and the last line, " Chose to be buried in the breach alive," being the only ones now legible, have given currency to many erroneous traditions. A rather popular one states, that the youth was actually inhumed alive by his own parents, rather than abjure some religious tenets they were averse to.

Mr. Thomas Way, the gallant Oxonian, who was mortally wounded while fighting in a breach the besiegers had effected in the town walls, as will be found on referring to the MS. of the siege, lies interred at this spot. Hutchins mistakes it for Mr. Hewling's grave.

Brave youth ! could vows have charmed fate's partial dart,
 Death had miss'd thine, and reach'd the tyrant's heart ;
 Thou worthier far to live, whose blooming youth
 By honor guard'd and secur'd by truth,
 Gave early hopes, when hast'ning years came on,
 To find in thee the perfect gallant man :
 No more we'll thy untimely loss regret,
 Just was thy cause and glorious was thy fate.
 Thus Courtiers, when no other means were found
 To make Rome safe, leaped bravely underground ;
 Scorning his country's ruin to survive,
 Chose to be buried in the breach alive.

Near the reading-desk are several inscriptions for individuals of the Andrew family :—

Solomon Andrew, Sen. Merchant, three times Mayor of this town, ob. 1684.—Mary his wife, ob. 19 June 1689.—Also for Mary their daughter, wife of Bonham Straungewaies, ob. July 1670.—On a brass plate are their arms.

Several of the Rose family lie interred in the nave. On a large stone

Elizabeth Rose: Anagram, "Obe, blest arise." Ob. 1636, æt. 35.

: Edward Rose, gent. ob. 1723, æt. 52.

*Hic sepulta est Elizabeth Rose uxor Richardi Roze, gener et filia
Henrici Henley de Leigh armig. quæ mater fuit sex filiorum
et quatuor filiarum.*

There are several inscriptions for individuals of the Burridge family: one for

Robert Burridge, Merchant, ob. March 20, 1675.

Great storms of sighs thy death this March uprears,
And April antedates by showers of tears:
Where thou wert known to praise thee were all one
To light a candle to the noon-day sun, &c.

There are inscriptions also for

William Smyth, merchant, twice mayor, ob. 16 Aug. 1667.

Nicholas Newell, sometime mayor, ob. 1723.

John Standerwick, merchant, twice mayor, ob. 26 March 1708.

In the porch was long preserved a part of the tomb erected in the south side of the church-yard to the memory of Mr. Hewling; it is now removed, and is supposed to have been converted to some use in the church by the masons for the sake of the stone:—

Here lieth the body of William Hewling, son of William Hewling, merchant of London, and grandson to William Kyffin, esq. alderman of London, who suffered martyrdom before he was full 20 years of age, engaging with the Duke of Monmouth for the Protestant religion, and English liberty, against Popery and Slavery,
Septembre 12, 1685.



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Great curiosity has been excited to ascertain what could have given rise to such a singular term as Cobb. After mentioning the favourite suppositions entertained on the subject, it will be left to the reader to judge which seems the most probable or consistent, if, indeed, consistency can be supposed in conjectural etymology.

Camden says the "Cobbe at Lyme was formerly called the Connor." In other places it occurs "Conners, Counor, and Counors."*

North, in his Life of Lord Keeper Guildford, says it

elevated above the next ledge, exhibiting in a satisfactory manner, by the peculiar disposition of the stones, that it is artificial. Various reports, seemingly grounded on tradition, are current respecting its antiquity, and attach more importance to it than its appearance warrants. Probably as early as the demolition of the Cobb a work was erected here, by which means boats lay secure in order to be loaded with stone for the re-erection of that structure. Being at some distance from the cliffs, and only discernible at extreme low water, when, from being overgrown with sea-weed, it would not attract the attention of a casual observer, little notice has been taken of it by strangers. It is in a line with the church and the bluff end of Portland. A few years since it could not have been far from the cliffs, which near the spot are continually falling.

* That beautifully variegated little fish that frequents rocks, from the colour of which it generally takes its name, as the Red Rolk, &c., to this day retains the original name of the Cobb, round which they play in great numbers, and by which they are no where else known—that of *Conners*.

derives its name from the *Cobble*-stone of which it is composed.

Some favour an idea of its having derived its name from a resemblance in bulk or colour to the heavy mud-walls in the country, termed *Cob*-walls, which are derived from the Greek word *Kovros*;

Might it not have been so important at one time that a cob was paid by each vessel, and thus the place at which the custom of a cob (or 4s. 6d.) was paid obtained the name, and retained it after the trade had declined, and the dues themselves forgotten?

Cobb is somewhere stated, though without authority, to mean "a forced harbour."

The appellation of *Conners* is coeval with that of *Cobb*.

Does the name connect itself with pilots, as the words "conning" and steering are synonymous? Has it any affinity with "conners," *i. e.* guagers—a familiar London term in the present day? An ale-conner is a common expression.

May it not be a corruption of "conders," which Ainsworth defines *halecum speculatores*, men who watch for herrings.

It is thus differently spoken of by various writers:—

Holingshed styles it "a great and costly jettey."

Leland, in his description of the town, says, "there is no haven at Lyme, but a quarter of a mile by west-south-west from the town is a great and . . . * in the sea for the socour of shippes."

Camden mentions the town "having a pier called the Cobbe below: well defended from the winds by rocks and tall trees."†

Coker, in his history, describes it as "a massy pile of building composed of great rocks, piled up together, which at low water they weighed up with empty casks."

Queen Elizabeth, in her charter, adverts to the "great and sumptuous structure built with mighty stones and rocks." Charles II. names it *Le Pere, Key, or le Cob*.

The situation of this work exposes it to the violence of the sea when agitated by the south and south-west winds. Since the reign of Edward the Third, when writers first bear mention made of it, and from which circumstance they suppose it to have been then first built, the injuries received by storms have been very great:—

On the feast of St. Martin totally destroyed,	-	A. D. 1377
Materially injured by a dreadful storm,	- - - - -	1722

* Defaced in the original MS.

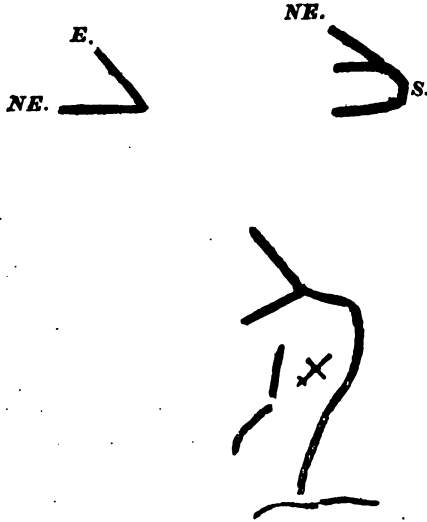
† Till of late years trees were standing near the water's edge.

Again, when the breaches were repaired by government at the expence of £2000, - - - - -	A. D. 1744
Considerably damaged, - - - - -	1762
The outer pier demolished in a violent gale, - - - -	1792
Centre breach effected in a storm,* - - - - -	1817

Since the erection of the Cobb it has undergone several changes in form, manner of building, &c. The first plan of it in former times appears in Harris's fine six-sheet map of England, 1700, taken from Lord Burleigh's map, about 1588, now in the king's library. It is not agreed on how the structure there drawn was situated with respect to the present work : it is generally supposed to have been a short distance from the shore. The next view, taken by the celebrated Dr. Stukeley, bears a much nearer resemblance to the present construction : he describes it as being a thousand feet in extreme length.

* January 20th, 1817, a most formidable breach of 192 feet was made in the south-west angle of the Cobb ; and so complete was the demolition as to be fatal to the vessels in the harbour at the time, several being driven out and lost, and others sunk at their moorings, likewise a number of boats dashed to pieces. For some time after the ruins of that part of the Cobb presented no protection to the shipping that frequented the harbour, any more than that of a shoal uncovered at low water, but having a raging sea passing over it at high water. As this was the largest sea ever remembered by any person then living at Lyme, it will gratify the curious to state that the gale was in this bay extremely moderate, and did not commence from the south-west till four o'clock in the morning, and by six the Cobb was in this part destroyed ; but to the westward of this place, at Plymouth and in the chops of the Channel, it blew a furious hurricane, overturning walls and houses. This it was which sent the sea home to us.

In another plan, dated 1756, appears for the first time the causeway that now unites it to the shore. Previously to its construction there was no passage to the shipping at high water but by boat.



Lord Burleigh's Plan of the Cobb about 1588 ; Dr. Stukeley, 1723 ; its present form, and disposition of the shore, 1823.

North says, "it is built on rocks weighed out of the sea from different situations, with empty casks, placed in regular order; and was carried out into the sea at one time more than fifteen hundred feet. Upon the rocks

high and thick walls of stone were built to a great height, and the interstices filled up with earth, rubbish, and small stones. The oldest part of the work now remaining plainly shews that the stones were but slightly wrought, and not bedded in any cement, but held together by their bearings only. This manner of erecting it was very deficient; as soon as the swamp appeared on the surface, that part was taken down to prevent a breach which would endanger the whole." He describes it to be in shape a demi-lune, with a bar in the middle of the concave.

DIMENSIONS OF THE COBB.		<i>Feet.</i>
From the shore to the extreme point of the outer pier, - -		1190
From the shore to the further part of the wall going north, -		930
From the end of the new work to the extreme point of the outer pier, - - - - -		500
Length of the northern wall, - - - - -		306
Length of the new work, - - - - -		192
Depth of the water at the mouth of the harbour in calm weather, -		12
During strong winds, - - - - -		14

With regard to the repairs of the Cobb at various periods, and the sources from which the money was procured, the expences at various times incurred in repairing breaches have been very great. Since its first erection the townsmen have contributed but little towards its support, and all records now existing refer to support by royal predecessors. From the reign of Richard the Second to the present time, considerable repairs have been undertaken, and carried on out of the public revenue. 27 Elizabeth, an act was made for the maintenance of it, and renewed

A. R. 35: it was enacted to continue in force ten years.* This was confirmed 1 and 21 James I., and further provision made by that king for its repair. The act establishing the grant was made perpetual 3 Charles I. By an act of Parliament, 1 James I., and 14 Charles II., the town of Lyme was exempted from contributing towards the support of Dover harbour, on account of this pier and expence of keeping it up.

The charter of Charles I., by which the inhabitants were incorporated and endowed with the privilege of levying the customary duties, was granted on the express condition of their maintaining and repairing the Cobb, or Pier. There was no regular grant of public money till the renewal of the charter by Charles the Second. At that time the annual amount of £100 was granted for twenty-one years, but determinable at the king's pleasure. A grant of the same sum has been renewed by every subsequent sovereign.

Particulars furnished from the Treasury some time since with regard to the reigns of Charles I. and II.:—

A. D. 1633,	- - - - -	£20 per annum.
1646,	- - - - -	1000.
1647,	- - - - -	1000.
1684,	to the present time,	100 per annum.

On the 28th of June, 1805, his Majesty George the Third, by his royal sign manual, granted an additional sum of

* Keeble's Statutes.

£100 per annum, payable out of the civil list debentures. All these grants were made with a view of coming in aid of the others for maintaining the Cobb.*

The distance the work extends from the shore, and elevation above the water, break the tremendous swell that would otherwise reach the town, between which and the Cobb, in westerly storms, the sea is comparatively tranquil. A foundation considerably above low water, to which at one time the pier was continued, extends two hundred feet farther into the sea. Should this ever be rebuilt, vessels of considerable tonnage, if caught in this fearful bay, and unable to keep the sea, might run on the ground at the back of the new work and save the lives of the crew, and the vessel might be got off by lightening her when the weather moderated. This is an important consideration, as there is no part of this extensive coast, from Exmouth Bar to Portland, on which a vessel that went ashore would not go to pieces.

The committee of repairs in the House of Commons were engaged, 1818, in enquiries respecting the repairs then required, and entered into examinations as to considering the pier a national work. The result was that this harbour is the best in the bay; that in spring tides, at high water, it is open to vessels of 120 to 150 tons, and with a draught of fourteen feet; that notwithstanding the circumstance of its being a dry harbour, it is in some respects preferable to the bar-harbours on the coast,

* Report of Committee.

some of which no vessel dare run for with the wind blowing violently on shore, accompanied by a high sea, for should a vessel strike on the bar at the entrance of a harbour she might pass over the bar and sink in deep water; but when a vessel strikes the ground at Lyme, she must be under circumstances of shelter and comparative security, being then protected by the outermost part of the Cobb, unless her draught of water be very great. Round the outermost part of the stones at the end of the Cobb, which breaks the sea, there is at low water spring tides twelve feet. It has proved the means, in many instances; of saving vessels with their crews, which would otherwise have been inevitably lost. The regularity of the cattle trade between the west of England and the islands of Guernsey and Jersey (a trade in time of war of great importance), depends on the peculiar position of this harbour, which makes it accessible with winds that prevent entrance into other ports of the West Bay.

The outer pier, swept away by a storm, 1792, is replaced by a work of solid Portland block, some of the stones weighing four tons. This seems to have been the first part constructed of that durable material. The extreme part was repaired by Major d'Aubant, the rest by Captain d'Arcy. This is recorded by an inscription on a smooth stone in the parapet wall.

On the 20th of January, 1817, a tremendous sea from the south-west destroyed the wall that screened the vessels from the heavy swell, which instantly swept through

the harbour, carrying every thing before it. Several vessels were wrecked there and on the beach. The breach preventing any thing but small craft from sheltering there during the stormy season, it was rebuilt, by a grant from government, under the able direction of Major Fanshawe: it is finished in every part but the parapet, and remains a striking proof of the superior manner in which sea-walls are now constructed. The foundation, laid at a great expence, and exterior crest, are of solid Portland stone,—the interior chiefly of cow-stone. The whole work, wedged together with pieces of oak (now preferred to iron), styled dove, or fan-tails, is one mass of masonry, capable, it is hoped, of resisting Neptune, even when he rages the most violently.

The corporation are proceeding to build the parapet as far as their finances from time to time afford the means. A slip, or ramp, for the convenience of carts ascending the Cobb from the sand in the harbour, has lately been constructed, which enables vessels to send goods on shore during a much longer period each flood-tide, and at a much earlier period at the ebb, than was before practicable. On the wharf are several warehouses, a dwelling-house, boat-house, and blacksmith's shop, now closed. Hutchins seems to have been misinformed in stating that the custom-house once stood there.

The harbour duties are unusually low: it appears, by statement of the committee, that the duties for a certain time at Lyme amounting to £83. 17s. 4d., would, for

the same articles, at Bridport, have been as high as £324. 13. 2d. The number of vessels that enter at the custom-house, from sixty tons upwards, have been for the last seven years at an average of 245 per annum. Two officers, styled Cobb-wardens, are appointed to see the vessels moored in proper situations, &c. Formerly, when the work was supported by the inhabitants, they made the assessment.

The farthest pier, as well as the whole extent of the Cobb, furnishes an agreeable promenade in serene weather: in summer evenings it is much frequented by company for the sake of the prospect and coolness of the air. By moonlight the gentle heaving of the waves, the passing of the boats, and the calm and pleasing, though sometimes melancholy, reflections, endured by a survey of the wide expanse of water, render it one of the most delightful spots. Immediately behind the harbour are the Cobb-houses, several of which are lodging-houses, building and timber-yards, &c., with a view of many gentlemen's cottages. High-Cliff House is seen at a considerable elevation on the hill from this spot.

The seamen in the preventive service have a watch-house there; to the right of which is the building-yard, where many excellent vessels, of different descriptions, have been constructed by Messrs. Bussell and Son. To the westward is the site of the Folly, a small inn in front of which Monmouth landed, and his followers were executed, in pursuance of the sentence passed on them by the barbarous Jeffereys.

CLIMATE.*

It may be supposed that there can be little, or, perhaps, no difference in the climate of places situated so near to each other as on the shore of the bay between Portland and the Start; and that, in point of salubrity, the character given of one place might suffice for that of the rest. This, however, in a very early stage of investigation, would be found erroneous; and there appears to be some reason for supposing the climate of Lyme to be superior to that of any part of the bay. Many people who are subject to rheumatic and nervous complaints find the atmosphere of the sea-coast so damp and relaxing as to aggravate considerably the distressing feelings arising from such complaints. Now the atmosphere of Lyme is, during the warm months of the year, considerably drier than any of the adjacent places on the coast. Lyme is situated for the most part on the side of a hill, forming one side of a comb, or valley, running in a south-east direction, from an amphitheatre of hills, forming a back ground, commencing on the coast between that town and Seaton, and extending, in a north-east and east direction, about twelve miles, terminating in a celebrated hill in Dorsetshire, called Lewesdon. This valley is far from being remarkable for the richness of its soil, or the luxuriance of its vegetation, and is of small extent: the

* My acknowledgments are particularly due to a gentleman for this account of the climate of Lyme, as his intimate acquaintance with, and constant attention to the subject, for the last twelve years, render him so fully competent to the task of describing the result of the observations he has invariably recorded.—*Note of the Author.*

soil being generally dry, on account of its resting at a small elevation on the green sand stratum, consequently the quantity of vegetable exhalation from the ground and foliage is very small. This fact is important on the following account.

In settled weather at all times, and constantly throughout the summer (unless in gales of wind), a current of air sets down all vallies towards the sea every evening, which, continuing all night, terminates about eight o'clock in the morning; after an hour or two calm the sea-breeze (in settled weather) sets in, and blows often very fresh till six in the evening, when it dies away, and a second calm takes place till about eight or nine, after which the evening current of air begins again to set down the vallies towards the sea. Now if we look at the situation of other towns on this coast the difference is essential: which lying in a bottom,—in some instances indeed below high water mark,—for the most part with a country for several miles at the back of them remarkable for luxurious vegetation and foliage, which give into the atmosphere a vast vegetable exhalation. This, as the evening comes on, does not rise high in the atmosphere, but accumulates between the hills, till the evening current, setting towards the sea, rolls this body of moist air, replete with the gasses arising from vegetable life, as well as vegetable decomposition, towards the coast, and produces a degree of chilliness that, after a very hot day, gives a sensation to the feelings of a complete atmospheric change having taken place. Some towns are similarly situated, with the additional disadvantage of

the vapours arising from broad rivers being added to the former. The great quantity of water evaporated into the atmosphere from these causes, in unsettled weather, with the wind at west and north-west, produces in the day successive heavy storms of rain, which slowly traverse the coast as far as Beer-Head, and then leave it, passing often in review a few miles to the southward of Lyme, indicating there has been rain to the westward which we have not experienced. In calms, with hot weather, the great quantity of vegetable exhalation which floats in the air over these places produces a lassitude and sense of weariness which renders a person in health very indisposed to, and an invalid incapable of exercise.

In unsettled weather, either in winter or summer, with strong south-west winds, the rain commences on the hills at the back of Lyme from three to four hours, and from one to two hours at Bridport and Abbotsbury, before it commences at Lyme; and in north and north-west winds; and showery weather, successive showers pass over Charmouth and along the coast to the south-east on one side; and from Charton to Seaton cliffs on the other, for the whole day, while not a drop of rain falls at Lyme.

The above circumstances account for the extraordinary small number of days (comprising twenty-four hours each) on which any rain at all falls at Lyme, being on an average for nine years only one hundred and sixty-seven days for the year,—a very small quantity for the west of England. Therefore the charge of extreme dampness; which is considered so formal an objection to places on

the coast, is partially removed; and if Lyme be comparatively destitute of the beauties, it is equally removed from the evils of a luxuriant foliage. Numberless people have recovered health and strength there, who have been obliged to leave other watering-places from the aggravation of their complaints.

MERCHANTS AND DISTINGUISHED FAMILIES.

Names of the principal Merchants and Representatives of Lyme from Edward I. to Henry IV. :—

Arthur.	De Doune.	Lynch.	Spikeland.
Barre.	Gaunt,	De Mayne.	Smith.
Bakere.	Atte Gate.	Osont.	De Sutton.
Bolymer.	Husee.	Pope.	Tinham.
Crotery.	Hungerford.	De Pett.	Tropenell.
Crogge, or	Le Kerr.	De Pymore.	Tuluse.
Grogge.	Kemp.	Robe.	Vode.
Croner.	Lidemere.	Samford.*	Wade.

Obs. Local names, such as Robert Bridport, and names of trade, as Adam le Mercer, which are of frequent occurrence during those reigns, are purposely omitted.

* There is a ludicrous tradition current respecting a female of this family, who it appears was doomed for some fraud to wander up the Buddle "a cock stride a year," uttering the following words, which are now used at Lyme to terrify refractory children, who, from the dreadful stories told them by the nurses, shudder at the name of Lady Samford :—

"I rue the time, I sold water for wine, and combed my hair of
a Sunday."

From Henry IV. to Mary I. :—

Balsham.	Coupland.	Moyle.	Spencer.
Barton.	Est.	Parkere.	Tavernier.
Battescomb.	Haselwell.	Petwardyne.	Tremayne.
Boel.	Hardyell.	Preston.	Umfrey.
Borough.	Kibell.	Richman.	Veysey.
Burgh.	Kyghley.	Selwood.	Welveton.
Byshop.	Leweston.	Sharpe.	Winslow.
Carent.	Montgomery.		

Merchants of respectability who served the office of Mayor. The dates shew the year when they were elected mayor for the first time, which generally happened in the third or fourth year after their admission into the borough:

Barratt, - 1555	Fowler, - 1603	Norris, - 1553
Barnes, - 1598	Garland, - 1549	Pitta, - - 1604
Beere, - 1698	Hart, - - 1660	Paddicomb, -
Bowdidge, 1700	Hill, - - 1603	Seward, - 1579
Bragge, - 1609	Holcombe, - 1655	Spering, - 1571
Cawley, - 1676	Hunt, - - 1558	Snow, - - 1563
Carswell, - 1678	Jurdayne, - 1575	Standerwick, 1585
Cogan, - 1667	Jones, - - 1580	Tanner, - 1562
Cottle, - 1670	Kyrridge, or	Turner, - 1649
Cox, - - 1728	Kerridge, - 1613	Tudhold, - 1561
Dare, - - 1564	Lymen, - 1692	West, - - 1657
Dey, - - 1544		

Obs. From 1711, for many years, several individuals of the Henley family, persons of large property, residing at Colway, were chosen mayors.

Bagster and Domett are names of frequent occurrence, but no one of either family have served the office of mayor, by which their first settling in Lyme is ascertained.

The most distinguished families of Lyme, with the time of their settling, departure, interesting memoirs concerning them, arms, &c. :—

ALFORD.—Richard Alford, merchant, was mayor 1757,—the fifth time 1652. The impropriation belonged to him. He was a determined royalist. His son, Gregory fought against the Parliament, which caused his father to be imprisoned. On his voyage to Portsmouth the vessel was taken by a king's ship, and he was released. Gregory compounded for his estates at £10, and returned to Lyme, where he was very severe in his treatment of dissenters. He was twice mayor; during his last mayoralty Monmouth landed. Family quitted Lyme, probably for Somerset.

ANDREW.—Solomon Andrew, merchant, occurs 1655. The individuals of this family were of the first respectability, and acquired a large fortune in Lyme by their commercial speculations.—Solomon Andrew, Esq., a gentleman of extensive property, had two children, a son and daughter: the former died 1712. At the father's death Sarah Andrew, a rich heiress, was left under the guardianship of Mr. Rhodes and Andrew Tucker, Esq., and resided at Lyme with the latter gentleman, her uncle, till Henry Fielding, whose distinguished works have placed him so high on the list of eminent writers, from his visits to Lyme, became most violently enamoured of her; but such a connection met the decided disapprobation of her guardians, and the young lady was sent off to Mr. Rhodes's, at Modbury, in Devonshire, to whose son,

Virginia in the summer. The following year the same company constituted De la War governor and captain-general, who shortly after embarked for America. Summers and Gates, during the winter, employed their followers in building a sloop to transport themselves to the continent. In the spring they set sail, and arrived safe in Virginia, where they found a colony of five hundred persons reduced to sixty, the others being returned home. They resolved upon doing the same; and with this intent the whole of the colony repaired on board the vessels to sail for their native country. The day after they departed they met the new settlers from England, at whose persuasion they returned with them, and from that time we may date the effectual settlement of Virginia.

Risdon, speaking of Gates, Summers's friend, describes his adventure as follows:—"Being bound to Virginia, 1609, the God of Heaven, making choice of men and times to compass his ends, by shipwreck, like another Jonas, cast on shore, made him and Sir George Somers the first possessors of the island Bermudos, now called Somers Island, which was formerly by all navigators supposed not habitable, yea, a very purgatory, is now by this strange means planted with English, and the Gospel there preached, whereby we are taught (in our dangers) to give God the greater glory."

Lord Delawar, who then obtained the supreme command, despatched Summers to the Bermudas in quest of provisions, where he died the same year, aged 60, leaving orders to his crew to return to Virginia with a cargo of

It would appear that the governor of the town during the civil wars was the son of this individual. After the siege, 1644, Thomas Sealey, as he was spelt in the list of mayors (probably by mistake), was chosen mayor.

COADE.—Robert Coade first occurs 1669. John Coade, merchant, the last of that name, was also the last of the old merchants who continued to carry on business after the decline of the town. He was mayor 1780. The property went to female heirs.

DAVEY.—Settled in Lyme before 1557. Robert Davey, mariner and owner, was several times mayor. During the siege a fort on the Church Cliffs was commanded by an individual of this family. Quitted the town about 1670.

EDWARDS.—Many of this name were opulent merchants. Edward Edwards served the office of mayor 1668. John Edwards, gent. left Lyme about 1715.

ELLESDON.—One of the most distinguished families of Lyme, settled about the reign of Henry VIII., and were probably of French extraction. Several of the name were chosen mayors four or five times each, and represented Lyme in Parliament. The impropriation of Charmouth belonged to them. The Ellesdens were long considered the first people in Lyme, where it is supposed they were, at their first coming to reside, engaged in commerce. They removed to Charmouth and other places about 1670. Anthony Ellesdon, the last of the male line [*in quo stirps*

mascula defecit familia de Ellesdon], lies interred there. Richard Henvil, Esq., of Bristol, merchant, married a daughter, and the estates devolved upon him. One of the Henvil family is possessed of the coin given to William Ellesdon by Charles II.; it is said to be in the West Indies.—*Arms*: A on a chevron. Sa. three fleurs de lis. O between three croselets G.

GUNDRY.—Nathaniel Gundry occurs mayor 1700; again 1719. See account of Justice Gundry in the biographical notices.—*Arms*: Two lions passant guardant az.

HARVEY.—Originally of London; came to Lyme about 1582. Walter was mayor four times; his son, Richard, three times. Left Lyme soon after the civil wars.

HASSARD.—Settled about the same time as the Ellesdons, and were successful merchants. Several individuals represented Lyme in Parliament. John Hassard was mayor seven times. Departed from Lyme about 1650.

NEWELL.—John Newell, merchant, occurs about 1625; his son was a gallant defender of the town during the siege. Name extinct. A Miss Newell married Mr. Puddicomb at the beginning of the eighteenth century; and it would appear that another female married one of the Domett family.

ROSE.—Of French extraction. For many years they spelt their name Roze. John Roze, merchant, the first

who resided in Lyme, came from St. Burlado, in the island of Jersey, and was elected mayor 1611; he shortly after married Fayth, daughter of Ralph Ellesdon, Esq. Richard, his son, married Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Henley, Esq., of Leigh, and represented Lyme in Parliament from the year 1639 to 1655. He occurs the first possessor of Wooton Fitzpaine about that time. Thomas Rose, Esq., sheriff for the county in the reign of George I., left an only daughter, who married Francis Drewe, Esq., of Grange, in the county of Devon.—*Arms*: Sa. on a Pale O, three Roses slipt G. leaved proper.

SMYTH.—William Smyth, merchant, came to Lyme about 1660. He was of a rich and old family of Devon and Somerset. His son realised a large fortune by merchandize, became alderman of London, stood candidate to represent Lyme in Parliament, but lost his election, and was knighted 1744. The Smyth family have long since left Lyme, where they held a very considerable property: their seat is at Sydling St. Nicholas.—*Arms*: Sable, a Fess, cottized Or. between three Martlets Or.

TUCKER.—Walter Tucker, merchant, settled in Lyme about 1604; he occurs mayor 1607, and served that office five times. Andrew Tucker, Esq. was sheriff for the county 1690, and resided principally at Nash, the family seat. Descendants are still remaining in Lyme.—*Arms*: Barry Wavy of ten A., and az., over all a chevron embattled between two sea-horses az.

WHETCOMB.—Originally of Sherborne. John Whet-

comb settled in Lyme as a merchant, and served the office of mayor 1672. The last of the family who remained, Jonas Whetcomb, Gent., occurs mayor 1733, and shortly afterwards left the town.—*Arms*: Paly A. and S., three spread eagles O., crest, a demi-eagle rising with displayed wings out of a mural coronet O.

BIOGRAPHICAL MEMOIRS.

It would have been highly censurable to have closed a description of Lyme without any mention of those eminent characters who claim it as their *solum natale*. Having distinguished themselves at rather a distant period, few particulars respecting them now exist, but had it been otherwise a notice of them must of necessity have been brief.

SIR GEORGE SUMMERS received his birth at Lyme, of respectable parents, in the year 1554. His father, John Summers, was a merchant of the town. George Summers entered the navy, in which he was destined to form so conspicuous a character, and early discovered great knowledge in nautical affairs. Serving under the noted commanders of that time, he greatly signalised himself,—probably more eminently so, in 1588, against the Spanish armada. The honour of commanding a naval expedition first devolved upon him in 1595. Performing his trust with credit, another expedition was entrusted to him in 1600, and two others fitted out the two succeeding years. In order to show his sense of these services, James con-

ferred the honour of knighthood upon him in 1604, when he was styled of Boxolm. The same year the corporation, in compliment to their distinguished and elevated townsman, elected him mayor. Spanish wars have been ever memorable for enriching the navy: Sir George Summers appears to have been no less successful than others in that respect. Actuated by a love for the place of his nativity, he came for a while, when disengaged from the active employment of a sea-life, to reside in the neighbourhood. In Mr. Coker's time, at Barne, a hamlet of Whitchurch, and from which a fine view of the Cobb and lower part of the town is to be obtained, was a house "late the residence of Sir George Summers."

He appears to have lived secluded till the year 1609, when the London Company, having obtained a new commission for the settlement of Virginia, appointed him admiral of the colony. The same year, in concert with Christopher Newport and Sir Richard Gates, he was actively engaged in procuring adventurers,—a difficult task then, as unsuccessful settlers had propagated unfavourable reports on their return respecting the country. However they mustered the same year at Falmouth, with seven ships, a ketch, and a pinnace, on board of which were five hundred men, women, and children. In crossing the Gulph of Bahama a dreadful storm separated the fleet. Summers ran his ship, which contained one hundred and fifty persons, ashore on one of the Bermuda Islands, which from this circumstance have been called the Summer Islands. The crew got safely on shore, while the remainder of the fleet prosecuted their voyage, and arrived at

black hogs. This the sailors did not choose to execute, they set sail in their cedar ship for Lyme; and it is a doubt whether the body of Sir George Summers was brought to be interred at Whitchurch, as is stated to have been the case. Captain Butler erected a monument to his memory at Bermuda ten years after his death.

His arms were V a fesse, dancette erm.

JOHN SUMMERS, Knt., father of Sir George Summers, occurs member for Lyme 1603, and is then termed governor of Virginia: it appears that he died the first year of his appointment. For further particulars see Fuller, Lidiard's Naval Histories, Monson's Naval Tracts.

IGNATIUS JOURDAN occurs in the Register, "the sonne of William Jourdan," August 17th, 1561. His father is said to have had a large family, and to have been in narrow circumstances. Ignatius left Lyme at an early age, and settled in Exeter, where, in a servile occupation, he acquitted himself so as to attract the notice of his superiors, and subsequently met with that preferment which is the appropriate reward of assiduously cultivated natural abilities united to personal worth. He rose to be an opulent merchant of that city, which he twice represented in Parliament, and, Izaacke says, was sheriff for the county. His riches brought troubles with them which in poverty he would have avoided; for after being elected mayor he attracted the notice of the Star-Chamber, before which he was frequently cited to appear, and his latter days seem to have been embittered by its decrees.

His active and prolonged life furnished ample matter for a history to F. Nicholls, minister of St. Mary Arches, Exon, who in his work, published in London, 1653, has recorded many admirable instances of his charitable disposition and exemplary conduct through life. He expired in 1640, aged 79. Besides several legacies to the poor of Exeter, he bequeathed £5 to the poor of Lyme, and other sums of money to the inhabitants of Guernsey, from which it would appear his family originally came, as many others did, to settle in Lyme.

ARTHUR GREGORY, who had his birth at Lyme about the latter part of the reign of Edward VI. or Mary, has received the injustice of having the offences of his public character transmitted to posterity, without mention being made of any act in private life that could in any way make amends for them. The family name is of frequent occurrence in the records of the period alluded to, but not as being of any consideration. The subject of the present sketch at an early age acquired a talent of opening letters in such an ingenious manner that no person could perceive the seal had ever been touched. Sir Francis Walsingham represented Lyme in Parliament about the time he first began, by his abilities in the house, to attract the notice of Queen Elizabeth. While at Lyme Arthur's talent first came to his knowledge; and being made minister in that eventful era he took him to London, where he procured him apartments in his own house.

Gregory had it in his power to serve his patron and himself. Indeed he was not idle: every packet from

abroad for the foreign ambassadors was opened by him, its contents perused by Sir Francis Walsingham, then re-sealed and forwarded; while he himself, it appears, was handsomely rewarded for his services.

It has been remarked, that no minister had ever possessed such an intimate knowledge and presentiment of the affairs, plots, and schemes of continental powers, and consequently applied such effectual means to disconcert them, as Sir Francis Walsingham. He assuredly owes a considerable part of his fame to Gregory. So far, though by unworthy means, he served his country when dangers threatened it. Happy would it be for his memory had he then retired; but his services were at that time doubly required. We are informed, on the authority of Fuller, that the packets from abroad for Mary Queen of Scots were invariably treated in the same manner by him. The contents being confidential communications, not always friendly to the English government, were exposed to the observation of Elizabeth, and determined her in a great measure on the execution of that unfortunate captive. Gregory was a man of superior talents, independent of his profession (opening letters), as it is somewhere termed. It is said that he once held some public situation in Lyme, and was noted for the accuracy with which he performed the most intricate mathematical calculations. He retired to his native place to end his days. His private character remains irreproachable. Arthur Gregory, Gent., supposed to be this individual or his son, was elected mayor in 1619. The precise time of his death is not recorded.

In the anonymous *Life of Sir Philip Sydney*, prefixed to his "*Arcadia*," wherein is mentioned the accurate intelligence Sir Francis Walsingham possessed from all parts of Christendom, occurs the following passage:—"He had a key to unlock the pope's cabinet; as if master of some invisible whispering-place, all the secrets of princes met at his closet." Does the anonymous writer allude to Gregory? or must we consider his remark in the light of a casual observation upon that minister? are questions that naturally present themselves, without a probability of being satisfactorily answered.

JOHN CASE, also a native of Lyme, and noted practitioner in physic and astrology, flourished about the time of James the Second. It appears that he was quite an original in his way. Granger says, that "he was looked upon as the successor of the famous Lilly, whose magical utensils he possessed. These he would sometimes expose in derision to his intimate friends, and particularly the dark chamber and pictures, whereby Lilly used to impose upon persons under pretence of showing them persons who were absent."

Over his door in London was the following distich, which is said to have procured him more solid advantage than Dryden obtained by all his works:—

Within this place
Lives Doctor Case.

He was doubtless well remunerated for composing the lines affixed to his pill-boxes:—

Here's fourteen pills for thirteen-pence
Enough in any man's own con-sci-ence.

He was living in the reign of Queen Anne. An anecdote is related which occurred when he was at supper with Dr. Maundy and Dr. Radcliffe. The latter drank to Case: "Here, brother Case, to all the fools, your patients."—"Thank you, good brother," replied Case, "let me have all the fools, and you are welcome to the rest of the practice."

The doctor's skill and attention were rewarded by the ample fortune he realised by his profession. On setting up his carriage, over his arms was affixed this quaint but appropriate motto: *The Case is altered.*

Mr. THOMAS CORAM, born at Lyme 1688, was the master of a merchant vessel that traded to Virginia in the pitch and tar trade, and was once engaged in the settlement of Nova Scotia. He is described as a man endowed with every benevolent affection. One peculiar trait in his character was an excessive fondness for children. His industry furnished him with the means of doing good. Subsequently his philanthropy raised him from that obscure station in life he had previously moved in, and enabled him to discover those abilities, by the assistance of which, after years of toil and difficulty, he succeeded in an undertaking of the most arduous character, the establishment of the truly humane institution of the Foundling Hospital. He was also highly instrumental in promoting other good designs.

In the year 1722 he commenced his exertions, rendered doubly severe by having in an eminent degree to combat popular prejudice. He derived considerable assistance from the active part many of the female nobility took in forwarding the execution of his good intentions. His own perseverance was displayed in a most laudable manner for seventeen years, at the expiration of which he enjoyed the heartfelt satisfaction of seeing his expectations fully realised. His thoughts were first directed to this object, during the most active period of his public life, by some distressing incident that engaged his attention when in the east part of London, his occasional residence.

As our limits preclude a detailed description of the plan on which this establishment is conducted, one remark only will be made,—that the object of the Foundling Hospital differs from foreign charities for foundlings: in this the reception of children is regulated by a committee, and abroad they are left without any enquiry.

He was so strenuous in various works of charity, and with so little regard to private economy, that he distributed the greater part of his income, the hard-earned fruit of early toil, to the poor and destitute. Towards the latter part of his life he was supported by a pension of rather more than £100 per annum, procured for him by the late Dr. Brocklesby and Sir Sampson Gideon. This sum was raised by some of the principal nobility, at the head of which was Frederick Prince of Wales.

In what a truly amiable light did the disposition of

Mr. Coram appear, when the doctor, applying to the good old man to know if the setting on foot a subscription would offend him, he nobly answered, "I have not wasted the little wealth of which I was formerly possessed in self-indulgence, or vain expences, and I am not ashamed to confess that in my old age I am poor."

After living to witness the inestimable benefits society had derived from his institution, by the admission of more than a thousand children, and the grant of a charter made by the king, he expired at his lodgings near Leicester-square, March 19th, 1751, at the very prolonged period of life of eighty-four years. An elegant inscription at the Foundling Hospital, where he particularly requested to be buried, perpetuates his memory, which is doubtless registered in the temple of Fame, and to which the complete success of his plan to its full extent, will, we trust, form a monument lasting as time.

WILLIAM SMITH, alderman of London, born at Lyme 1704, knighted 1744. Sir William Smith died 1752, and was interred at Sydling St. Nicholas.

NATHANIEL GUNDRY, of Lincoln's Inn, Esq., king's counsel 1743, justice of the King's Bench 1750. He died on the circuit at Launceston, March 30th, 1754, and was buried at Musbury.*

The following, though not natives, were intimately connected with Lyme:—

* Hutchins.

Dr. NICHOLAS GIBBON, a distinguished physician, practised at Lyme in the latter part of the seventeenth century. His father, Nicholas Gibbon, D.D., was a celebrated divine, sequestrated for his attachment to Charles I. He was turned out of his living, with eleven small children, to provide food for which he rented a piece of land, and drove the plough himself, while his son, afterwards the physician, held it.

Rev. AMOS SHORT, A.M., of Exeter College, Oxford, born in Devon 1616, was the son of a gentleman of fortune. He settled in Topsham 1645, and 1646 was ordained by the seventh classical presbtery. In 1650 he accepted an invitation to Lyme, where he remained till the Bartholomew Act ejected him in 1662. He was generally respected, and was repeatedly importuned to conform, which nothing, not even the offer of a deanery, could induce him to comply with. After his ejectionment he continued to preach in private houses, as an opportunity offered. Though always a sufferer for nonconformity, he preached a sermon at the Restoration, replete with loyal sentiments, which was printed by particular request of the magistrates. His father was so exasperated on hearing of it that he left him nothing. He established the first independent chapel in George's-court, where he preached to a small congregation, for whom, at his first coming to Lyme, he had drawn up "articles for the right ordering their conversation." Mr. G. Alford sent a copy of them to London, which caused him to absent himself till the matter was forgotten. About the time of the Rye-House plot the county troops came to Lyme to seize him

and Mr. Keridge, a dissenting minister, when the populace got into the meeting-house, pulled down the pulpit, and were breaking up the seats, but the commander, — Strobe, Esq., prevented them from committing further violence. He was several times convicted and imprisoned, and at last outlawed. During his imprisonment at Dorchester, Solomon Andrew, Esq., who had been his friend, and advised his wife to urge him to conform, was in Somersetshire, and was heard to express himself thus: "I will stick as close to Mr. Short as his skin does to his flesh." On his way to the assizes, where he was designed to be foreman of the grand jury, he was found dead on the road. Mr. Short outlived his troubles, and after liberty was granted to dissenters established a public chapel. He died of apoplexy, aged 81. His son educated young men for the ministry at Lyme.*

The distinguished Mr. THOMAS HOLLIS, though not a native, is so well known as an early visitor of Lyme that it seemed desirable some mention should be made of him here. After the decline of the town he was the person who principally laboured towards its revival, not only by his own personal endeavours, but by encouraging others to pursue the same line of conduct. From the fatigue of continual study to which at times he was intently devoted he found relaxation in the comparatively tranquil retreat of "Liberty-Hall,"—the name given by himself to the apartments he occupied at the Three Cups Inn,

* See Nonconformist's Memorial.

formerly purchased by him, over which, in large letters, was thus expressed the character of its inmate.

He was born in London, April 14, 1720. His ancestors were originally from the north, but settled in London during the civil wars. The family separated in the reign of Henry the Seventh: from one branch sprung Denzil, Lord Hollis. The subject of the present sketch was educated at Newport, in Shropshire, till he was nine years old, after which he was under the care of Dr. John Ward, professor of rhetoric in Gresham College. From Dr. Hunt, Dr. Forster, and other eminent persons, he imbibed that ardent love of liberty, and freedom of sentiment, which strongly marked his character through life. In February, 1739, he went to chambers in Lincoln's Inn, but does not appear to have studied law as a profession, though he continued there till 1748, when he set out on his travels for the first time, accompanied by Thomas Brand, Esq., of Hyde, in Essex. In his first and second tour he completed his visit to almost every country in Europe. Twice were fine collections of books, intended as presents to Harvard College, destroyed by fire. He published, or procured to be published, many excellent works of literary reputation. At the time such curiosity was excited to discover the concealed author of "Junius's Letters," Mr. Hollis was publicly mentioned as the probable writer of them.

The imputation of being an unbeliever of revelation has fallen upon him from scarcely ever having visited

places of worship; he is however described as having acted the good Samaritan all his life,—as a man possessed of a large fortune, more than half of which he devoted to charities. In order to preserve the memories of those patriots for whom he had a veneration, he called many of his fields by their names, and by which they are still distinguished, at Corscomb. While in his field at that place, giving directions to his workmen previous to his departure for Lyme, January 1, 1774, he suddenly fell down in a fit, and expired. He was interred, according to his express orders, in the middle of a field, in a grave ten feet deep; the field was immediately ploughed over, that no trace of his burial-place might remain. He bequeathed his property to Thomas Brand, Esq., who has taken the name of Hollis.

At the time Mr. Hollis visited Lyme there were poor tenements standing in the most open parts of the town, occupying the space proper for the erection of larger houses. He incessantly recommended the proprietors to pull them down, which was in many instances complied with, and he himself purchased several, particularly a row of small cottages up the hill, for the express purpose of having them removed.

The old people, of which Lyme contains no inconsiderable number, speak in affectionate terms of Mr. Hollis,—his charitable actions are their favourite theme: he was at once the patron of the industrious and dread of the idle.

COINS.

Lyne is remarkable for the quantity of money, rings, and other valuables found there at different times, and in various situations, which are supposed to have been deposited in the earth during the unsettled periods of the civil wars and Monmouth's expedition, when many of the proprietors being slain, the treasures remained either to enrich or amuse the present inhabitants.

The removal of the old houses caused the discovery of many hidden treasures; and in the rubbish thrown, or carried by the town gutters, into the sea was contained a large quantity of smaller articles, which, from their minuteness, escaped notice.

At the mouth of the river, within the last twenty years, have been found numerous tradesmen's tokens, brass rings and keys, silver buttons, and other trifling articles. The constant reaction of the surf in winter draws back the large gravel, and discovers a finer mixture of gravel and sand, containing metal of different kinds, small pieces of lead, brass coins, and very great numbers of pins, which give it a blackish colour.

Many handsome gold and silver rings have been discovered in that situation, among which two are remarkable,—the first a bolt-ring of curious workmanship, the other a large silver ring, which has been once thickly plated, and retains some grotesque figures in outline formed by the gold, which in that part is not entirely

rubbed off. Farther west, near the end of the Walk, was picked up a massive gold ring, on which were engraven the arms of the Andrew family, in a state of the most perfect preservation. Near the Church Cliffs, among the ledges, in holes formed by the pholades, or hack-fish, are found many musket-balls and large shot, which are washed from the fallen fragments of the cliff.

We have already described the discovery of the gold and silver coins. Several of the former kind have been since dug up in a garden, and as there still remain many old houses in the back streets, we may with probability advance that much money, or, to use a frequent expression at Lyme, "a power of money," is yet to be discovered.

The credulous say that those spots which contained money were invariably haunted by a lady habited in a stiff silk dress, who appeared to several persons that subsequently, by observing the exact spot where she vanished, dug and secured the treasures. It is asserted that Long Entry (the name given to the path leading to the Church Cliffs from the Butter Market) was particularly troubled.

After the discovery of the coins in 1786, if any one appeared to be in rising circumstances, it was surmised he had been "digging;" many dreamed of money, and actually did so, which gave rise to many ludicrous stories that we dare not repeat.

Coins have been found which are supposed to be Roman; but those picked up on the beach are usually considerably worn, and the inscriptions illegible. One piece of money, nearly the size of a halfpenny, now in the possession of a gentleman of Lyme, is of a very singular character:—The obverse exhibits a grotesque representation of a man in the act of counting out pieces of money on an old table, or abacus, without any legend. In a square on the reverse are the letters of the alphabet, in Roman characters, with the D reversed, the V for a U, and two Z's in succession. The same gentleman possesses a piece of pure gold, on the concave side of which appears a portion of a very neatly executed design that has suffered by the action of the pebbles. From two perforations, it appears to have been used as an ornament.

There have been, and still are, found coins of every country with which Lyme traded at different periods; particularly Spanish, Portuguese, and French, and tokens of almost every town in the west of England where those small pieces were struck. The farthings have usually on one side the tradesman's sign, and on the other its value; occasionally the name of his wife and trade. The legend is the name of the person and place of residence. The farthings generally weigh from thirteen to fifteen grains, and are mostly of brass or copper. Mr. Hollis possessed some of the finest specimens of these tokens, no fewer than two thousand of which are known.

The corporation farthing, struck in 1669, had the following inscription:—

Obverse. A Farthing of Lyme R. S. Area. L. R. 1669.

Reverse. The Armes of Lyme R. S. - - - The Arms.

Another small piece of frequent occurrence :

Obverse. Amvell Hart. Area. A Heart.

Reverse. Of Lyme. - - - A vase with flowers.

Another occasionally found :

Obverse. Abraham Pitts of Area. A ship.

Reverse. Lyme Regis, 1657. - - - A. P.

GEOLOGICAL NOTICE OF THE COAST, WITH A DESCRIPTION OF THE FOSSILS.

The cliffs from Lyme to Axmouth are nearly of uniform elevation, of about five hundred feet in height. Golden Cap, to the east of Lyme, is about six hundred feet above the level of the sea.

The *chalk*, which is the uppermost of the beds observable on this part of the coast, makes its first appearance at Ware Cliffs, and forms the caps of the hills between Lyme and Axmouth. It rests upon green sand, and contains many fossils and an abundance of flints. It appears from Beer-Head to Dunscombe Hill, east of Sidmouth, where it gradually diminishes in thickness. Seven miles south of the Cobb, beneath the sea, are high chalk rocks, known to sailors by the name of "Tennants," at the depth of fifteen fathoms.

Professor Buckland, after mentioning that large and insulated masses of chalk occur, showing to what degree the diluvian waters have probably interrupted its original continuity, observes, that "these facts concur to show that there was a time when the chalk covered all those spaces on which the angular chalk flints are at this time found; and that it probably formed a continuous, or nearly continuous stratum, from its present termination in Dorsetshire, to Haldon, on the west of Exeter."

The *green sand* appears on Down Cliff, west of Bridport harbour, on the top of the hill, resting upon beds of oolite formation; westward it forms the cap of every hill as far as Black Ven, where it rests on the blue lias, and contains regular, compact, and unbroken beds of chert. On Shorne Cliff, Golden Cap, and other hills between Lyme and Sidmouth, the chert occurs in the form of loose angular shattered fragments. Between Axmouth and Sidmouth the green sand occupies an intermediate position between the chalk and red marl, and disappears from the coast at High Peak, west of Sidmouth.

Lias.—Rising from under beds of the oolite formation, at the base of Down Cliff, west of Bridport Harbour, first appears the blue lias, which is last seen in some very low cliffs to the westward of Culverhole Point, a little east of Axmouth. Its general dip in the vicinity of Lyme is gently towards the south-west; under the Church Cliffs a few small faults occur. At the eastern base of Pinhay Cliffs a small portion of white lias rises from beneath the blue, but is soon thrown down by a fault; not far from the

commencement of the red marl west of Culverhole Point it re-appears, when a few strata of blue lias separate them.

These particulars are extracted from a paper on the Geology of the South Coast of England, by H. T. de la Roche, Esq., in the first volume, second series, of the Geological Transactions; in which also occurs a paper on the Geology of Part of France, by the same gentleman, who remarks, that the rocks he has there described, with the exception of quartz rock, nearly correspond in position, structure, and organic remains, with those found in the southern parts of England, of which they are most probably the continuation. He observes that the oolites and lias of Calvados are probably the same as those of Weymouth, Bridport, and Lyme; and that "the new red sand-stone of Calvados and La Manche agree in position, though not always in appearance, with the same rock in Devon."

Professor Buckland observes, that the incorrectness of the once popular notion that England has been torn from France by some sudden violence has already been exposed by Mr. W. Phillips and others. It is much more reasonable to suppose that the bed of the English Channel was formed at the same time, and in the same manner, with those differences of level which are observable every where on dry land. The depression that forms the bed of the English Channel is very trifling in proportion to the extent of its surface, and is very much exceeded in depth by the large continental lakes. The greatest observed depth of water at the western extremity of the Channel, between the Land's End and Ushant, is only seventy fa-

thoms, the distance between the two places being about thirty leagues; whereas the Lake of Geneva is nearly double that depth, between Lausanne and Evian, the distance between the latter places being about three leagues; and between Cape la Hogue and Portland, a distance of about sixteen leagues, the depth of water is only forty-five fathoms, or two hundred and seventy feet.

The same gentleman, in a paper "On the Excavation of Valleys by Diluvian Action, as illustrated by a succession of valleys which intersect the coast of Dorset and Devon," observes, that "in passing along this coast we cross, nearly at right angles, a continued succession of hills and vallies, the southern extremities of which are abruptly terminated by the sea, the valleys gradually sloping into it, and the hills being abruptly truncated, and often overhanging the beach or undercliff with a perpendicular precipice.

"The main direction of the greater number of these valleys is from north to south, that is, nearly in the direction of the dip of the strata in which they are excavated; the streams that flow through them are short and inconsiderable, and incompetent, even when flooded, to move any thing more weighty than mud and sand.

"The greater number of these valleys, and of the hills that bound them, are within the limits of the north and north-west encampment of the green sand formation; and in their continuation southward they cut down into the

oolite, lias, or red marl, according as this or that formation constitutes the substratum over which the green sand originally extended. There is usually an exact correspondence in the structure of the hills inclosing each valley, so that whatever stratum is found on one side, the same is discoverable on the other side upon the prolongation of its plane. No subterraneous disturbances have operated to an important degree to affect the form of the valleys.

“The valley of Lyme differs from others only in that its lower strata are composed of lias instead of red marl; but the valleys of Chideock, Bridport, and Burton, being within the area of the oolite formation, have these lower slopes composed of oolite subjacent to the green sand; whilst that of Charmouth is of a mixed nature, having its western branches in green sand reposing on lias, and in some of its eastern ramifications intersecting also the oolite. In the same manner the valley of the Axe has lias interposed between the green sand and red marl on its east flank, but none at all on its western side, below the town of Axminster. These apparent anomalies form no exception to the general principle, that the variation of the sides of the valleys is always consistent with that which is simply referable to the variation of the substrata, on which the depending waters had to exert their force. It is moreover such as can be explained on no other theory than that of the strata having at one time been connected continuously across the now void spaces which constitute the valleys.”

FOSSILS.

From the state and elevation of the cliffs in the neighbourhood of Lyme, particularly the lias, an excellent opportunity is afforded for the examination of its fossils, many of which have been recently brought to light that were before unknown. For many years the first visitors, in their rambles upon the beach, attentively sought after small shells, cornua ammonis, &c., which they distinguished by the general term of "curiosities;" but as the winter season afforded greater facilities for finding, and the smallest specimens were bought with avidity by the company on their return in the summer, a person made it a principal part of his occupation to provide himself with a supply. His attention being directed to the ledges and fragments of the fallen cliffs, he began to discover small pieces of a black substance he conjectured to be bone, with distinct vertebræ of different dimensions, which were sold as portions of some animals that were overwhelmed and buried in the deluge.

It was not till the year 1812 that the first specimen of organic remains, approaching in any degree to a perfect state, was discovered: it was supposed, from the great resemblance it bore to the crocodile, to have been one of that species, and was so designated, till, on a more minute and scientific investigation, the distinctive difference existing between them was pointed out, more particularly in the vertebræ, the form of which is much more analogous to that of fishes, from which circumstance

chiefly it obtained the name of *Ichthyosaurus*, or lizard-fish, to the exclusion of crocodile. This specimen was placed in the British Museum, and almost every subsequent year has been attended with fresh discoveries.

The remains of this animal are principally discovered at Black Ven, and most commonly in the slaty or marly part of the lias. Three species of this fossil genus are stated by Mr. De la Beche to be very distinguishable, the principal difference consisting in the form of the skull and teeth. To these species he gives the name of *Communis*, *Platyodon*, and *Tenuirostris*. He observes, some animals of the genus *Ichthyosaurus* must have been of an enormous size, having in his possession a vertebra which measures seven inches and three quarters in diameter; also various portions of a paddle, which, when entire, must have measured, including the humerus, at least two feet and a half in length.

Besides the remains of the *Ichthyosaurus*, there are found in the lias of Lyme the remains of another animal, the *Plesiosaurus*, which is intermediate in its structure between the *ichthyosaurus* and crocodile, and thence has obtained its name. The vertebrae of this animal agree more nearly with the crocodile than with the *ichthyosaurus*,

General characters.—A marine quadruped, nearly resembling the crocodile in the osteology of its head, and its mode of dentition. Vertebrae having both faces of the body deeply concave, as in fishes. Extremities having no distinct radius and ulna, but the humerus immediately

supporting a very numerous series of small polygonal bones, forming a very flexible paddle. Anterior extremities much larger than the posterior.

Osteology of the Head.—Teeth.—These bear a near resemblance in form to those of the crocodile; and the mode of dentition by the young tooth growing up in the interior cavity of the old one, and when matured splitting and causing it to fall, is exactly similar.

The teeth are more numerous than in the crocodile: there cannot be less than thirty on a side in either jaw. They are placed in a long sulcus, or furrow, like that in the jaw-bones of some fishes not in separate alveoli as in the crocodile.

Lower Jaws.—The lower jaw in the ichthyosaurus, in common with the Lacerta family, instead of having, like other quadrupeds, a single bone on either side, exhibits no less than six. The general form of the jaw differs from that of the crocodile in being much more lengthened, and acutely angular. Its termination is indeed almost as sharp as the beak of a bird. The bones of the upper part of the head have the same marked coincidence with those of the crocodile.

The *eye* of this animal, which is extremely large, is rather lower placed than in the crocodile, the bottom of the orbit being nearly in a line with the opening of the jaws. It has its sclerotica, composed of a substance subdivided into thirteen plates.

Vertebrae.—These resemble the vertebræ of fishes, having like them, in consequence of the double concave form of their bodies, the intervertebral joint deeply cupped. The total number occurring in place in one specimen amounted to 144, not including the atlas and axis.

Sternum.—The whole form and apparent position of this is very analogous to the bone commonly called the merry-thought in birds. Its whole structure is such as to impart great strength to the chest, enabling the animal to breast the most disturbed waters, and affording an extensive surface for the attachment of powerful muscles.

The *paddle* is formed so as to possess a great propelling power.*

Mr. De la Beche has in his possession some immense molar teeth of the elephant and rhinoceros, which have been dug from the cliff.

The green sand contains numerous and various fossils; and in compact nodules of it, called cow-stones by the masons of the country, there are found occasional remains of the Crustacea. There has been obtained from the same kind of stone a singular fossil crab.

Among the Echinites one has been found belonging to the genus Echinanous, and has been named Echinanous Lampas, from its great resemblance to an antique lamp.

* Rev. W. D. Conybeare and H. T. De la Beche, Esq.

There occur also in the lias at this place singular bodies, which appear to have been the external defensive radii of some fish, and to have been used in the same manner with similar bones of the *Balistes* tribe. They are longitudinally grooved from the apex nearly to the other extremity, which appears to have been the part that protruded out of the body of the fish, and the part imbedded in the body is hollow. Some specimens are armed with teeth, like bony processes, in two rows, placed so as to give a zigzag appearance; in others several of these bones are placed side by side, from which it might be inferred the fish had several of them. There is a variety of this bone, which differs from the former in being much narrower, and covered with tubercles instead of longitudinal grooves.

The lias of Lyme contains a fish remarkable for having rectangular scales seldom more than a quarter of an inch thick, most commonly not one eighth. It is a beautiful fossil from the jet-black lustre of its scales. Where the fish is fractured, the vertebræ and ribs may be discovered on the inside. The pectoral fins are in general finely preserved. Dr. Leach has given it the name of *Dapedium politum* (*A. Davidson, pavimentum*). From one of the short sides of these rectangular scales there is a triangular projection, which fits into a corresponding depression in the adjoining scale. On the outside of the fish the projection is not visible, the interior part only of the scales being thus provided. These fossils are by no means common, and vary from seven to eighteen and twenty inches in length.

There is another fossil-fish, longer considerably in comparison with its breadth than the preceding; the scales are not rectangular, except towards the head. These fish are found much compressed, seldom exceeding the thickness of drawing-paper, and are generally of uniform size, never much more than seven or eight inches in length. There are at least five other species of fossil-fish.

Fine specimens of pentacrinite occur in seams parallel to the strata of the lias at Golden-Cap Hill. Of the genus *Pentacrinites*, or *Pentacrinus*, as described by T. S. Miller in his "Crinoidea, or Lily-shaped Animals," the following species are found at Lyme:—

Species 2. *Pentacrinites Briareus*.—*Briarean* five-angled lily-shaped animal, found in the lias.

3. - - - - *Subangularis*.—Subrotund five-angled lily-shaped animal, found also in Wurtemberg.

4. - - - - *Basaltiformis*.—Basaltiform five-angled lily-shaped animal. Columns of four and five feet long occur in this species. Met with both in the lias and chalk.

In the hard lias limestone, and in spherical and large nodules of the marly strata, are found many variations of *Ammonites*:—*

<i>Ammonites communis.</i>	<i>Ammonites Henleii.</i>
- - - - <i>discus.</i>	- - - - <i>Lucombii.</i>

* Commonly called *Cornua Ammonis*, are found in various coloured spar. In the last or exterior chamber, the animal is supposed to have fixed his habitation, communicating with the interior by means of a siphunculus centralis or lateralis, capable of dilatation or con-

<i>Ammonites fimbriatus.</i>	- - - -	<i>Brookii.</i>
- - - - <i>obtus.</i>	- - - -	<i>Birchii.</i>
- - - - <i>stellaris.</i>	- - - -	<i>Königii.</i>
- - - - <i>Greenovii.</i>	- - - -	<i>Beecheri.</i>
	- - - -	<i>Davari.</i>
	- - - -	<i>Bucklandi.</i>

Mr. De la Beche observes that the *Nautilus Striatus* is the only species of that genus he has discovered in the lias near Lyme.

Among the Univalves are the following:—

<i>Trochus anglicus.</i>	<i>Cirrus.</i>
- - - <i>imbricatus.</i>	<i>Melania.</i>
<i>Helicina expansa.</i>	

Among the Bivalves are, *Avicula inæquivalvis*, *Modiola Scalprum*, *Pinna*, and *Plagiostoma gigantea*.

Terebratulæ occur in abundance. The *Gryphea incurva* is not very common. Small casts of turbines are found composed of iron pyrites,* which enters largely into the composition of many fossils of the lias, particularly the *Ammonites*.

traction. The septa of this genus are always extended in a particular sinuous form, so that the edges which terminate in the shell appear similar to those of beautiful foliage. *Parkinson*.

* Mr. Hill, of London, holds the beach for several miles, in a lease from the several lords of the manor, for the purpose of procuring the iron pyrites, which he uses in the manufacture of oil of vitriol.

Fern leaves are found in the lias, and wood approaching the state of jet, splitting into small cubical pieces, and burning with a very disagreeable smell—specimens generally flattened. Wood, compact and knotted, which does not burn, and is traversed by veins of sulphate of Barytes, or carbonate of lime.*

The list of minerals, from the nature of the rocks in the vicinity of the town, can be but short:—

IN THE CHALK ARE

Flint. Chalcedony. Radiated Iron Pyrites.

IN THE GREEN SAND

Chert. Chalcedony. Crystallized Quartz. Iron Pyrites.

IN THE LIAS

Calcareous Spar. Selenite. Sulphate of Barytes. Iron Pyrites.

A very beautiful pyritical substance is found, in figure much like a flower, with its petals fully expanded, and diverging from a raised centre, which may be imagined its receptaculum, or germen. It has been fancifully termed “Cupid’s wing.”†

* Fine specimens of various fuci are often washed on the shore: the fucus vesiculus richly overlays the rocks at low water. Attached to these, and others of the Algæ order, is found the *Patella ceruleata*, or blue-rayed limpet. Lumps or nodules of pyrites, very much resembling mushrooms, are met with in great quantities, as well as fuci.

† The author here acknowledges the material assistance he has derived from Mr. De la Beche’s paper on the south coast of England, *Geol. Trans., 2d Series.*

The following particulars are related in Hutchins's Dorset, page 315, vol. 1:—"In August, 1751, after very hot weather, followed by sudden rains, the cliffs near Charmouth began to smoke, and soon after to burn with a visible but subtile flame. The same phenomena were observed at intervals, especially after rain, till winter; the flame, however, was not visible by day, except the sun shone, when the cliffs appeared at a distance as if covered with pieces of glass, which reflected the rays; at night the flame was visible at a distance, but when the spectator drew near he could perceive only smoke. Such a flame has been seen rising from the lodes or veins of the mines in Cornwall, except that when the spectator approached it did not disappear, but seemed to sink into the earth. On examining the cliffs here, a great quantity of martial pyrites was found, with marcasites, that yielded near a tenth of common sulphur; cornua ammonis, and other shells, and the belemnites, all encrusted with pyritical matter. These substances were found not in regular strata, but interspersed in large masses through the earth, which consisted of a dark-coloured loam, impregnated with bitumen to the depth of forty feet. There was also found a dark-coloured substance, like coal-cinder, which being powdered and washed, and the water slowly evaporated to a pellicle, its salts, which shot into crystals, appeared to be a martial vitriol." In vol. 52 of the Philosophical Transactions are some curious remarks on this phenomenon, by John Stephens, M.A. Mr. Smith, in his History of Kerry, page 220, gives an account of a like phenomenon at the mouth of the river Shannon, between Lisk and Dune castles, of which a relation was

published in 1733, misrepresenting it as a volcano, whereas it was owing to the mixture of pyrites, sulphur, and iron ore, in the cliff, when wetted by the sea. Mr. Smith parallels this by other instances in Caernarvonshire, recorded in the Philosophical Transactions, No. 218, page 213; and in the island of Milo, in the Archipelago (Tournefort's Voyages, 1. p. 166).

The following beautiful reflections on the animals found imbedded in the earth are taken from the fourth edition of Cuvier's Essay on the Theory of the Earth, and will, we trust, prove acceptable to our readers:—

“ Fossil organic remains are the relics of a primæval world long since gone past, proclaiming with a loud voice the instability of earthly affairs, and impressing upon the minds of those who seriously consider them sentiments of piety and feelings of devotion. If the antiquarian digs from among the ruins of Herculaneum a piece of ancient money, a vase, or a statue, we rejoice with him in finding the mode of life, the manners, and arts of an ancient people placed before our eyes. But if, among the ruins of the common country of the human race, we linger at the great sepulchre of animated beings destroyed by the hand of fate, who can look upon it without sentiments of piety! It is not here the statues of Polycletus that we admire, but the admirable monuments of the workmanship of nature, taken from the ruins of the great Herculaneum overwhelmed by the ocean, that we look upon with feelings of the deepest wonder and devotion.”

A LIST OF THE MORE RARE BIRDS IN THE VICINITY OF LYME REGIS.

The scientific names are those of Latham's Index Ornith.; the English, those of Pennant's British Zoology, edition of 1812.—The arrangement is also that of the latter work.

LAND BIRDS.

Sec. 1. RAPACIOUS.

Falco Cyaneus.	Hen Harrier and Ring Tail,
Lanius Collurio.	Red-backed Shrike.

Sec. 2. PIES.

Yunx Torquilla.	Wryneck.
Picus Major.	Great Spotted Woodpecker.
Upupa Epops.	Hoopoe.

Sec. 3. GALLINACEOUS.

Otis Œdicnemus.	Thick-kneed Bustard,
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Sec. 4. PASSERINE.

Ampelis Garrulus.	Waxen Chatterer.
Loxia Curvirostra.	Cross Bill.
- - - - -	Mountain Finch.
Muscicapa Grisola.	Spotted Fly Catcher.
Silvia Salicaria.	Sedge Warbler,

WATER BIRDS.

Sec. 1. CLOVEN FOOTED.

Charadrius Hiaticula.	Ringed Plover.
- - - - Calidris.	Sanderling.
Hematopus Ostralegus.	Oyster Catcher.

Sec. 2. FIN FOOTED.

Podiceps Cristatus.	Tippet Grebe.
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Sec. 3. WEB FOOTED.

<i>Alca Arctica.</i>	Puffin Awk.
- - - <i>Torda.</i>	Razor Bill.
<i>Uria Troile.</i>	Foolish Guillemot.
<i>Colymbus Stellatus.</i>	Speckled Diver.
<i>Sterna Hirundo.</i>	Common Tern.
<i>Anas Fusca.</i>	Velvet Duck.
<i>Pelecanus Carbo.</i>	Corvorant.

CATALOGUE OF THE MORE RARE PLANTS.

MONANDRIA.

<i>Hippuris Vulgaris.</i>	Common Mare's Tail.
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DIANDRIA.

<i>Veronica Officinalis.</i>	Common Speedwell.
<i>Orchis Bifolia.</i>	Butterfly Orchis.
- - - - <i>Pyramidalis.</i>	Pyramidal Orchis.
- - - - <i>Conopsea.</i>	Red-handed Orchis.
- - - - <i>Apifera.</i>	Bee Orchis.
<i>Scrapias Palustris.</i>	Marsh Helleborine.
- - - - <i>Grandiflora.</i>	White Ditto.
<i>Circea Lutetiana.</i>	Enchanter's Nightshade.

TRIANDRIA.

<i>Iris Foetidissima.</i>	Stinking Flag.
<i>Shoenus Nigricana.</i>	- - - -

TETRANDRIA.

<i>Sherardia Arvensis.</i>	Little Field Madder.
<i>Asperula Odorata.</i>	Sweet Woodroop.
<i>Rubia Tinctorum.</i>	Wild Madder.
<i>Plantago Coronopus.</i>	Buckthorn Plantain.
<i>Galium Cruciatum.</i>	Cross Wort.

PENTANDRIA.

<i>Lithospermum Officinale.</i>	Common Gromwell.
<i>Lysimachia Nemorum.</i>	Wood Loosestrife.

<i>Atropa Belladonna.</i>	Deadly Nightshade.
<i>Crithmum Maritimum.</i>	Sea Samphire.
<i>Viburnum Lantana.</i>	Way-faring Tree.
<i>Sambucus Ebulus.</i>	Dwarf Elder.
<i>Jasione Montana.</i>	Hairy Sheep's Scabious.
<i>Rhamnus Catharticus.</i>	Buckthorn.

HEXANDRIA.

<i>Narcissus Pseudo Narcissus.</i>	Common Daffodil.
<i>Narthesium Ossifragum.</i>	Lancashire Asphodel.

OCTANDRIA.

<i>Chlora Perfoliata.</i>	Yellow Centaury.
<i>Erica Tetralix.</i>	Cross-leaved Heath.
<i>Daphne Mezereum.</i>	Mezereum.
<i>Polygonum Bistorta.</i>	Great Snakeweed.
<i>Adoxa Moschatellina.</i>	Tuberous Moschatel.

DECANDRIA.

<i>Chrysosplenium Oppositifolium.</i>	Golden Saxifrage.
<i>Saponaria Officinalis.</i>	Soapwort.
<i>Silene Maritima.</i>	Sea Catch Fly.
<i>Cotylidon Umbilicus.</i>	Navelwort.
<i>Stellaria Uliginosa.</i>	Fountain Chickweed.

DODECANDRIA.

<i>Roseda Lutea.</i>	Rocket.
<i>Euphorbia Exigua.</i>	Dwarf Spurge.

ICOSANDRIA.

<i>Rosa Spinosissima.</i>	Burnet Rose.
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POLYANDRIA.

<i>Clematis Vitalba.</i>	Virgin's Bower.
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DIDYNAMIA.

<i>Teucrium Scorodonia.</i>	Wood Sage.
<i>Nepeta Cataria.</i>	Cat Mint.
<i>Galeopsis Ladanum.</i>	Red Hemp Nettle.
<i>Galeobdolon Luteum.</i>	Yellow Archangel.
<i>Melampyrum Arvense.</i>	Purple Cow Wheat.

TETRADYNAMIA.

Bunias Cakile.	Sea Rocket.
Crambe Maritima.	Sea Kale.

MONADELPHIA.

Malva Moschata.	Musk Mallow.
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DIADELPHIA.

Spartium Scoparium.	Common Broom.
Anthyllis Vulneraria.	Kidney Vetch.
Lathyrus Nissolia.	Crimson Grass Vetch.
Hedysarum Onobrychis.	Saintfoin.

POLYADELPHIA.

Hypericum Androsaemum.	Tutsan.
- Elodes.	Marsh St. John's Wort.
- Pulchrum.	Small upright ditto.

SYNGENESIA.

Picris Echioides.	Bristly Ox-tongue.
Hieracium Umbellatum.	Bushy Hawkweed.
Carduus Tenuiflorus.	Slender Flowered Thistle.
- Acaulis.	Dwarf Thistle.
Onopordon Acanthium.	Cotton Thistle.
Tanacetum Vulgare.	Tansy.
Conyza Squarrosa.	Great Flea Bane.
Solidago Virgaurea.	Common Golden Rod.

CRYPTOGAMIA.

Equisetum Sylvaticum.	Wood Horse Tail.
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TOWNS IN THE VICINITY OF LYME.

Axminster, five miles; *Sidmouth*, fifteen; *Seaton*, seven; *Chard*, twelve; *Bridport*, nine.

Charmouth, the Carixa of Ravennas, is a delightful village, distant two miles from Lyme, on the London road. It is generally admired for the great taste displayed in building, and pleasant situation, a short walk from the sea.

Charmouth was first resorted to by bathers about seventy years since, when the accommodations for their reception were equal, if not superior to, those at Lyme. The lodging-houses are now neatly fitted up, and accommodate many genteel families, who visit it for the season, and form a pleasant circle of acquaintance, though, from the smallness of the place, unprovided with assembly-rooms or public amusements.

During the summer salmon-peel ascend the Char to deposit their spawn, when great numbers are taken. There exists a confused traditional account of a harbour at the mouth of the river; no vestiges of any work are now discernible. The hill which separates Lyme from Charmouth has been aptly termed by Mr. Hutchins "the Plinlimmon of Dorset."

GENTLEMEN'S SEATS IN THE IMMEDIATE
VICINITY OF LYME.

High-Cliff House, the seat of Sir Edward Synge, Bart., a short way from the town, on the Sidmouth road.

Nouvelle Villa, lately built by Sir Bouchier Wrey, Bart.

Pinney House, the residence and property of Mrs. Edye.

Whitlands, a country-seat of John Donne, Esq.

Rhode Hill, the seat of Admiral Sir John Talbot, Bart., K.C.B.

Cumberland House, the property of Mr. Poole, now occupied by Colonel Williams.

Langmore House, delightfully situated near the London road, the property of Mrs. Liddon, now occupied by Ambrose Porter, Esq.

At the distance of a pleasant drive are

Wooton House, the charming residence of Mrs. Drewe.

Sadborrow House, the seat of John Bragge, Esq.

Shute House, the superb residence of Sir William T. de la Pole, Bart.

Coryton, an elegant seat of William Tucker, Esq.

Stedcombe House, the seat of John Hallet, Esq.

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ERRATA AND REMARKS.

Page 5, for Llornboth,	read <i>Llionborth</i> .
23, — disperse,	— <i>dispense</i> .
24, — N. S.	— (<i>N. S.</i>)
42, — was he,	— <i>he was</i> .
84, — of Bagster,	— <i>of the Bagster, &c.</i>
94, — lest,	— <i>left</i> .
163, — Counor & ors,	— <i>Connor & ors</i> .
— — Rolk,	— <i>Rock</i> .
178, — no one have,	— <i>none have</i> .

Since the earliest sheets have been printed off, the Author has been favored with an extract from some deed, once in the parish chest, but now lost, written in the same hand as the one he at first had access to, but with the correction of a date ; so that the omission of the following sentence (line 5, page 8,) becomes necessary ;—" and may, with probability, be supposed to have existed prior to the grant of the land to the church of Sherborne."

By the same authority it appears that the old books were left to the church in 1638 ; the large volume of the Book of Martyrs, full of plates, which has been destroyed by the boys, stood on a curious stand now in the porch. Such bequests were not unfrequent during that period. Small sums of money were sometimes left, that the Book of Martyrs might be read at certain times to the people ; and, no doubt, proved, as was the intention, a good antidote to popery.

12

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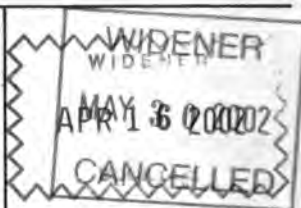


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